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TODAY:
HEALTH
SCIENCE
Deadly Bacteria

In Pretoria, Old Debts Challenge Diplomacy

By Lynne Duke
Washington Post Service

JOHANNESBURG — After decades as a global pariah, South Africa is searching for a new international identity and grappling with how to balance old allegiances and debts with the realities of diplomacy.

Like a new kid on the block, this freshly democratic nation wants the world to be its friend. In its efforts to build bonds with both perennial powers and longtime supporters, the government, led by the African National Congress, counts among its allies such odd bedfellows as the United States and Cuba, Israel and Iran, China and Taiwan.

So far, the courting of foreign capitals has produced some shaky relations at home. South Africa's regional friends, especially Zimbabwe, feel nervous about their economically powerful neighbor. They feel disrespected, sources say, as they watch South Africa's leaders forging stronger ties around the globe while neglecting the region that once was their staunchest partner against the racially repressive policies of apartheid.

Great expectations have been placed on President Nelson Mandela and his government to show that their foreign policy will be guided by the same kind of visionary leadership that transformed South Africa from a white-ruled nation shunned by the world to the most economically powerful black-ruled democracy on the continent.

But as they tend to the overwhelming social and political problems inherited after the demise of apartheid, South Africa's leaders have been cautious about their African entanglements. As with the current crisis in Burundi, in which several African countries have imposed sanctions because of the coup and massacres there, South Africa has preferred to follow its partners rather than lead them.

Among the key foreign policy issues that have caused months of contemplation but little enunciation are: Will South Africa choose between Beijing and Taipei? Will its largely symbolic relations with Libya and Cuba ultimately alienate the United States? After vacillating between soft and hard lines on Nigeria, then acknowledging its ineffectiveness and folding itself into multilateral efforts on the issue, will South Africa take a clear stand?

South Africa enjoys a special global

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LONDON BIKE-IN — A cyclist confronting a motorist Wednesday in the Whitehall area as hundreds of anti-car campaigners on bicycles added to the traffic chaos by a strike on the city's subway system. The bikers want more investment in public transportation. Travel Update, Page 2.

Anti-Abortion Republicans Gain

Pro-Choice Advocates Set Back in Primaries

Party Moderates Vow Fight at Convention

The Associated Press

In a stunning setback to moderates calling for tolerance, Republican voters in Kansas, Michigan and Georgia have chosen Senate nominees who oppose abortion rights less than a week before the start of the party's national convention.

In Bob Dole's home state, the Kansas Republican primary pitted moderates aligned with the woman who succeeded the presumptive presidential nominee against the party's social conservatives — and the conservatives won easily.

The Kansas party chairman, David Miller, said that the results proved conservative themes of less government, less taxes and "respect for traditional values" were as strong as in 1994, when Republicans captured control of Congress.

"A lot of people in the media have declared the message from the 1994 election to be null and void," Mr. Miller said. "The results from today's election refute that."

David Rohde, a professor of political science at Michigan State University, said that the voting habits of the religious right may have made the difference in the vote in Kansas. "If

See PARTY, Page 10

By Katharine Q. Seelye
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Set back by conservatives who removed the compromise "tolerance" language on abortion from the Republican Party platform, moderates are vowing to wage a fight at the convention next week to reinstate at least an acknowledgment that some Republicans favor abortion rights.

William Weld, governor of Massachusetts, and Pete Wilson, governor of California, spearheaded efforts Tuesday to modify language approved Monday in San Diego by a platform subcommittee. Every effort was overwhelmingly rejected and proponents could not even muster the 20 percent of the delegates on the committee needed to force a roll-call vote.

That failure increased the chances of a messy floor fight over abortion when the convention opens Monday. Bob Dole, the party's all-but-certain presidential nominee, tried to avoid a floor fight by yielding to conservatives in advance.

The new language says Republicans have different views

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Taiwan Vice President Gets U.S. Transit Visa

Beijing Warns of 'New Damages' To Relations From His Stopover

By Michael Dobbs
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The State Department has decided to issue a transit visa to the vice president of Taiwan despite objections by Beijing, which reacted violently last year to an unofficial visit to the United States by the Taiwanese president.

Diplomatic sources said the U.S. decision would permit Vice President Lien Chan to stop over in the United States for a day or two next week on his way to a presidential inauguration ceremony in the Dominican Republic.

The Dominican Republic is one of several dozen Latin American and African countries that have full diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

[Taiwan confirmed Wednesday that Mr. Lien, who is also prime minister, planned to pass through the United States, Reuters reported from Taipei. "Vice President Lien's transit through the United States is very reasonable and normal," a spokesman for the cabinet's Mainland Affairs Council said. "It is not necessary for Communist China to overreact."

In Beijing, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said China had made known its opposition to Mr. Lien's U.S. stopover and urged Washington "to honor the solemn commitment it has made on the question of Taiwan so as to prevent new damages from occurring in Chinese-U.S. relations."

U.S. officials maintained that the decision to grant a visa to Mr. Lien was in accordance with the administration's one-China policy, under which it recognizes Beijing as the sole legal government of China, but continues to maintain "informal" relations with Taipei.

They said that Mr. Lien will not be permitted to make any public appearances in the United States, but that he might meet privately with members of the Taiwanese community.

Granting visas to Taiwanese officials is a painful issue for Beijing, which is suspicious of any move by Taiwan to assert independence from the mainland.

Relations between the United States and China plummeted last year after the president of Taiwan, Lee Teng-hui, made a triumphal return to his American alma mater, Cornell University, and denounced communist totalitarianism.

It has taken the Clinton administra-

U.S. Bolsters Effort to Seek Evidence of Life on Mars

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton on Wednesday hailed the discovery of possible signs of primitive life on Mars and said America would pour its scientific prowess into the effort to confirm this stunning breakthrough.

"I am determined that the American space program will put its full intellectual power and technological prowess behind the search for further evidence of life on Mars," Mr. Clinton said.

"If this discovery is confirmed, it will surely be one of the most stunning insights into our universe that science has ever uncovered," Mr. Clinton said. "Its implications are as far-reaching and awe-inspiring as can be imagined."

The president noted that the United States planned to launch an unmanned spacecraft on a Mars exploration mission in November. He said he had directed Vice President Al Gore to convene "a bipartisan space summit" at the White House later this year "on the future of America's space program" including how to pursue scientific questions raised by the Mars meteorite.

"We are committed to the aggressive plan we have put in place for the robotic exploration of Mars," Mr. Clinton said.

A team of NASA researchers on Wednesday released the best evidence yet that organisms made up of organic molecules and carbon compounds — the building blocks of life on Earth — existed on Mars billions of years ago.

At a news conference to detail the findings, the NASA administrator, Daniel Goldin, cautioned that researchers were not claiming "ultimate proof" of life beyond earth, but circumstantial evidence they want other scientists to study and then prove or disprove.

"All of us are skeptical," he said, "but thrilled and humbled by this prospect." (Reuters, AP)

Kathy Sawyer of The Washington Post reported earlier:

During an exhaustive study of minuscule fissures in the surface of Martian rock found in Antarctica, a team led by researchers from NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston found what they said could be fossils of tiny extra-terrestrial organisms stuck to the surfaces.

In a peer-reviewed paper for Science magazine, the researchers said they had found the first complex organic molecules, of the sort required for carbon-based life, ever seen in a Martian rock. They assembled a list of these and other features — each of which, taken individually, could be explained by nonbiological means.

However, they wrote, when all the features were considered collectively, "we conclude that they are evidence for primitive life on early Mars."

Carl Sagan of Cornell University, who has studied and written for 40 years on the importance of such a discovery, said: "If it is truly a microfossil from ancient Martian history, it is a transforming discovery in the history of science. Not just that, but it provides a pro-

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Serb and Croat Leaders Agree to Diplomatic Ties

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ZAGREB — Croatia and Federal Yugoslavia will establish full diplomatic relations on Aug. 23, President Franjo Tudjman said Wednesday.

Speaking on Croatian television after his return from a meeting with President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia, Mr. Tudjman said Foreign Minister Mate Granic of Croatia and his Yugoslav counterpart, Milan Milutinovic, would sign the agreement in Belgrade to establish full relations.

Prime Minister Costas Simitis of Greece, who organized the meeting in the Greek city of Vouliagmeni, announced the general framework of the agreement.

A statement released by the Yugoslav delegation said the two Balkan states, which emerged from the breakup of former Yugoslavia, were "ready to proceed to a full normalization" of relations.

Mr. Tudjman and Mr. Milosevic are the two most powerful politicians in the

Yugoslav region and have been bitter rivals for much of the past decade. Their nationalistic policies contributed greatly to the split of the former Yugoslav federation and to the wars that followed.

Their decision to normalize relations was dictated by pragmatism. Conflict in the region has devastated their economies and turned the full weight of foreign pressure on their leaders to work for peace.

On Wednesday, the two presidents discussed the future of the contested Freetown Peninsula, the problem of the Eastern Slavonia region of Croatia, which is still held by rebel Serbs, and the fate of prisoners of war and Serbs wishing to return to Croatia.

Mr. Tudjman, 74, and Mr. Milosevic, 54, have met frequently at international conferences since 1991 but have not officially met alone since the breakup of Yugoslavia.

Last week, Mr. Tudjman was in Washington on a different diplomatic mission: getting local election results accepted in the divided Bosnian city of Mostar. He met President Bill Clinton on Friday, then dispatched senior aides

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A group of Spanish tourists visiting the war-wrecked Sarajevo Library on Wednesday. Their weeklong tour, organized by the so-called Barcelona Embassy in Sarajevo, will take them to various parts of Bosnia.

Cunard Cruising Full Speed Upmarket

By Edwin McDowell
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — As the Queen Elizabeth 2 limped across the Atlantic in December 1994, plagued by exploding pipes and erupting toilets from an unfinished renovation, Peter Ward remembers feeling sorry for the world's most famous cruise liner — but even sorer that Cunard had allowed such a disaster to befall the crown jewel in its fleet.

Now that he is running Cunard, Mr. Ward is trying not only to restore the cruise line's reputation, but also to upgrade it.

While the number of cruise passengers has flattened and most lines are

dangling steep discounts on glitzy ships to attract middle-income, first-time customers, Cunard is sending its aging fleet at flank speed to the small, luxury end of the market.

As chief executive of the ailing Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Ltd., Mr. Ward could readily identify with an elegant British institution that had fallen on hard times. Now, having succeeded in turning around Rolls-Royce, he is trying to forge similar change at Cunard — a challenge that will require winning the confidence of new owners who have already tried to sell the line.

Kvaerner A/S of Norway recently bought Trafalgar House PLC, the parent company of Cunard, for \$1.38 billion. Kvaerner said from the outset that it

would sell Cunard once the acquisition was complete.

The Norwegian company dangled Cunard before a long list of potential buyers, but when they all balked at the \$380 million asking price (its book value is about \$458 million), Kvaerner took the line off the block.

For Cunard, the rejection was a humbling experience. The Disney Cruise Line, for example, which will begin operations in 1998, told the Financial Times, "We have no interest in Cunard or the QE2. It is seen in the industry as something of a liability."

The key to recovery, Mr. Ward is convinced, is attentive service, inter-

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AGENDA

Mountain Floods Kill 9 in Spain

PAGE TWO
Reflections of Dole's Ex-Wife

THE AMERICAS
New Hopes of Finding More Bodies

ASIA
Rebels Holding On in Sri Lanka

EUROPE
Austria Balks at Joining NATO

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BIESCAS, Spain (AFP) — Nine people died and more than 40 were injured during flash floods on the Spanish side of the Pyrenees following a heavy downpour, a private radio station reported Wednesday.

Spanish Civil Guards had earlier put the death toll at three.

The floods devastated a camping ground packed with tourists in the northern Aragon region, causing mudslides.

The identity of the victims was not immediately known. Biescas is a village of less than 1,000 people, about 30 kilometers (20 miles) from the French border.

Dow Jones	Trib Index
Up 22.56	Down 0.07%
5718.67	136.59
The Dollar	West. close
New York	1.4855
DM	1.4855
Pound	1.5429
Yen	107.945
FF	5.0635

Newstand Prices	Lebanon	LL
Andorra	10.00 FF	3,000
Antilles	12.50 FF	16 Ch.
Cameroon	1.800 CFA	10.00
Egypt	35.5 CFA	12.80 FF
France	10.00 FF	10.00 R.
Gabon	1100 CFA	1,100 CFA
Greece	350 Dr.	225 PTAS
Italy	2,800 Lire	1,250 Dm
Ivory Coast	1,250 CFA	10.00 Dm
Jordan	1,250 JD	U.S. M.L. (\$1.20)



AT&T

End of a Politician's Marriage / 'I Want Out.'

Dole's Ex-Wife Reflects

By Kevin Merida
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — "Own a piece of history." J.P. Hoefling is into his sales pitch, guiding a visitor through his five-bedroom colonial with the two-car garage, screened porch, two fireplaces, deck off the kitchen and partially wooded back yard anchored by a towering maple.

This is the house where Bob Dole lived 30 years ago. Located in a scenic Virginia neighborhood called Lake Barcroft, the home is a symbol of Mr. Dole's political rise and of a personal anguish he rarely discussed.

More than anything, it is a landmark for a life that no longer exists.

In this former life, Mr. Dole was married to an occupational therapist named Phyllis who put her own career on hold and helped her husband cope with the physical limitations he faced because of his World War II wounds.

In this former life, the Dole family of three vacationed on New Hampshire's Lake Winnepesaukee, where Mr. Dole and his only child, Robin, would sneak off to get hamburgers and penny candy and play pinball.

But on Jan. 11, 1972, this life ended when the Doles were divorced in Shawnee County District Court in Topeka, Kansas — the day after Phyllis's 47th birthday. Their relationship had long been deteriorating, especially that last year when the family had eaten fewer than five meals together while Senator Dole traveled the country as the Republican Party national chairman.

One evening, Mr. Dole came home and, in the living room that Mr. Hoefling now shows prospective buyers, abruptly stated his desire: "I want out."

Now married for a third time, to her high school sweetheart — her second husband died — Phyllis Macey remains puzzled by the suddenness of her breakup with Mr. Dole and the odd manner in which the divorce was executed. She is listed as filing for the divorce that her husband initiated and it was granted immediately because of an "emergency" petition submitted by her attorneys, one of whom was hired by Mr. Dole.

She says she is not bitter and that they remain friends, but Phyllis Macey still does not know what triggered Mr. Dole's decision to end their 23-year union. "You'd have to ask him those questions," she said. "I was pretty stunned."

AS HE campaigns for president, the presumed Republican Party nominee has willingly discussed his humble beginnings in Russell, Kansas, and his struggle to recover from shrapnel wounds that left his right arm useless. But his first marriage, its dissolution and his relationship with his daughter, Robin, are rarely part of Mr. Dole's retelling of his saga.

Although Robin will address the Republican National Convention next week, she is not mentioned in the campaign video that reintroduced Mr. Dole to the nation at the start of his campaign. "It sort of baffles me," she said in an interview at his campaign headquarters. "I'm not sure what to think."

This article is about Mr. Dole's first life as husband and father and the key events leading up to his divorce. It is based on several dozen interviews with family members, friends, former neighbors and political acquaintances and an examination of court records, biographies and other public statements.

In addition, Bob Woodward, an assistant managing editor of The Washington Post, made

available unpublished interviews with Phyllis Macey that he and another journalist, Karen Alexander, conducted early last year for his book, "The Choice."

Repeated requests to interview Mr. Dole were either denied or unanswered. But in his updated autobiography, "Unlimited Partners," written with Elizabeth, Mr. Dole offered this explanation for his failed first marriage:

"For some time before 1972, Phyllis and I had been drifting apart. I was caught up in one life, whose demands were escalating, she in another. While Robin was still young, she helped keep us together, but it wasn't a happy time for either of us. I had been raised to believe that anyone who couldn't make his marriage work was a failure."

Mr. Dole added: "Mine was not the first or, sadly, the last marriage to founder on the political rocks."

The relationship began in the spring of 1948, when then Lieutenant Dole asked Phyllis Holden to dance at an officers club function at Percy Jones Army Medical Center in Battle Creek, Michigan. Mr. Dole was there for therapy on his right arm, which was still in a splint after being reconstructed. She was an occupational therapist in the hospital's psychiatric ward.

Two days later, he asked her out for coffee. Three months after that, they were married.

Phyllis did not baby Dole. She gave him confidence, shook him out of his funk.

"Phyllis made me forget my injuries," Mr. Dole wrote in his autobiography. "She helped me think not in terms of disability, but of ability. She treated me like everyone else."

WHEN Mr. Dole resumed his college education at the University of Arizona, for a year, his wife accompanied him to class, taking notes and writing tests and papers from Mr. Dole's dictation. After receiving a law degree from Washburn University in Topeka, Mr. Dole took his Kansas bar exam by whispering the answers to his wife, who wrote them down.

"He struggled to be able to write again," she told Mr. Woodward. "It was even difficult for him to go out to dinner. He could not cut a steak, but we learned to have that done so he wouldn't have to do it."

She tied his ties. She had padding added to the right shoulders of his suit jackets so his shriveled arm and smaller shoulder would be less noticeable. She was by his side as, at 27, he was elected to become one of the youngest state legislators in Kansas history.

In his first congressional race, in 1960, she made 16 red-felt skirts for his volunteer, female campaign troupe. "Dolls for Dole." For 6-year-old Robin, there was a skirt with lettering above the hem: "I'm for My Daddy — Are You?"

After his election, she took care of the home life.

"Bob was into his career," said Russell Townsend, a retired Russell newspaper publisher. "I would call his office and I could always get a hold of him. Because he was always there."

On the surface, it seemed like a splendid life. There were receptions and dinners at the White House. She still has the matchbook President Richard Nixon used to light her cigarette during one such occasion.

And Lake Barcroft was an A-list neighborhood with a 135-acre lake and five private white-sand beaches. The Doles' neighbors included a host of other congressmen, Attorney General Ramsey Clark and Justice Thurgood Marshall of the Supreme Court — the first African American to integrate the neighborhood, in the 1960s.



Bob and Phyllis Dole at their home in Lake Barcroft, Virginia, in the late 1960's. The house, now for sale, is a landmark for a life that no longer exists.

Garner Shriver, a former Republican congressman from Kansas and a Lake Barcroft resident, recalls how uncomfortable Mr. Dole seemed at a rare dinner party he and his wife attended at the Dole home. "I don't think he was really interested in socializing," Mr. Shriver said.

HE OFTEN got home too late to kiss Robin goodnight, heading instead to a downstairs family room to sleep alone. When he became Republican national chairman, the travel demands compounded his already heavy work schedule.

Phyllis was asked by Miss Alexander, during a four-hour luncheon interview last winter, whether Robin had missed her father's presence in the household. "How do you know if you've not had it?" she replied.

TODAY, Robin is a 41-year-old former lobbyist for Century 21, single and working full time as a volunteer in her father's campaign. She says her father's absences should not be seen as

abandonment. She recounted her first trip to Europe with him as a teenager, his teaching her to drive and even his unsuccessful attempt to get the British Embassy to arrange a Beatles concert at her high school.

Of the breakup, she said: "I don't know that it ever occurred to me until my father told me."

Mr. Dole's Senate chief of staff, William Kats, gathered the senator's aides to break the news.

Mr. Dole consulted President Nixon and the Nixon campaign chairman, John Mitchell, beforehand, even offering to resign as chairman to spare the party any embarrassment. He was told to stay on.

Mr. Dole suggested that his divorced wife leave Washington, she recalled, and he arranged a job for her in a Veterans Administration hospital in Topeka.

Meanwhile, he was seeing Elizabeth Hanford. They met several months after the divorce and were married in 1975.

UN Appeals To Africans to Allow Burundi Aid Shipments

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NAIROBI — The United Nations on Wednesday made a passionate appeal to Tanzania and Kenya for permission to send food aid to more than 700,000 war refugees in landlocked Burundi, now hit by regional economic sanctions.

Tanzania and Kenya, Burundi's routes to the sea, have imposed a tight air, road, rail and water embargo on the central African state to try to topple the Tutsi military leader, Major Pierre Buyoya, and return the country to constitutional order.

Major Buyoya seized power July 25, ousting the ethnic-Hutu president, Sylvestre Ntibunganya. African leaders started blockading the coffee and tea-growing nation last week to try to force him to restore civilian rule.

Major Buyoya said in an interview published Wednesday that he was willing to negotiate with the Hutu if they laid down their weapons.

"I want to bring back democracy," Mr. Buyoya told the French daily Le Figaro. "There will be a national debate. We'll find a solution."

He also pledged to put an end to "abuses and mistakes" after UN observers reported that thousands of Hutu civilians had been killed in recent months.

"In a civil war, abuses and mistakes are possible," he said. "We will do all we can to put an end to this. We will use discipline to fight against violence."

He also pledged "all guarantees" for the security of the former president, who has taken refuge in the U.S. Embassy in Bujumbura.

UN officials said that unless Tanzania and Kenya allowed humanitarian aid to pass to Burundi, the plight of those in need would dramatically deteriorate.

In a letter to the leaders of the two countries, the United Nations promised to "put into place a framework that will ensure food reaches only those it is intended for."

Uganda joined the blockade on Wednesday, and state-run Air Burundi now has only one foreign destination, Kigali, the capital of neighboring Rwanda, which said it would not apply sanctions.

"We are going to work with them and help them find a solution," Paul Kagame, Rwanda's vice president and defense minister, told the BBC.

Mr. Kagame was critical of the seven-nation African summit that decided on sanctions, saying a mechanism should have been put in place so that the imposition of measures was not done on a country-by-country basis.

Rwanda and Burundi share a similar ethnic mix, with Hutu making up a majority of around 85 percent and Tutsi forming a powerful minority.

(Reuters, AFP)

TRAVEL UPDATE

Strike Shuts Down London Subway

LONDON (AP) — A strike by subway drivers and a demonstration by bicycle-riding protesters snarled morning rush-hour traffic in London on Wednesday.

Only four early-morning trains ran on the Underground system, which normally carries 1.6 million passengers a day, as drivers staged their fourth one-day walkout in a dispute over hours and wages. The next subway strike is planned for Tuesday.

In central London, motorists' miseries were compounded by hundreds of demonstrators from the Reclaim the Streets campaign, who circled Trafalgar Square on bicycles.

Stoppage Called Against Air France

PARIS (Reuters) — Air France's UNAC union called on cabin crews to strike on Friday and Saturday, but the company said it could guarantee all flights scheduled on the two days.

The strike call is the union's 10th since March. The union opposes reforms proposed by the management, notably new hiring terms.

A spokeswoman for the airline said, "Air France, as in the previous strike calls, expects normal traffic."

China Plans Fiber-Optic Tibet Link

BEIJING (AP) — China plans to have the first fiber-optic cable linking Tibet with the rest of China in place by 1998, the newspaper China Daily reported Wednesday.

The 3,000-kilometer (1,900-mile) cable will connect

Lhasa, the Tibetan capital, with Lanzhou in Gansu province, the newspaper said.

Telephone calls between Tibet and China currently pass through a labyrinthine route of satellites and microwave stations.

The new cable will stretch across the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, an area 5,000 meters (16,500 feet) above sea level called the "roof of the world."

Florida Train Financing Reported

PARIS (AFP) — A consortium including OEC Alstom NV and Bombardier Inc. has reached agreement with Florida authorities on the financing of a high-speed train in the state, according to daily papers Les Echos and La Tribune Des Finances, citing the Florida Transportation Department.

The Transportation Department confirmed its commitment to pay \$70 million a year over 30 years to the consortium. The project is estimated to cost a total \$5 billion.

The railroad line, to be called Florida Overland Express, will link Miami with Orlando and Tampa.

A group of United Airlines flight attendants is threatening to call in sick during next week's Republican convention in San Diego, potentially disrupting the second-biggest carrier serving the city. The attendants say they "feel driven to take a stand against the airline's exportation of flight attendant jobs to foreign workers at non-U.S. bases, and UAL management's refusal to bargain in good faith during current contract negotiations."

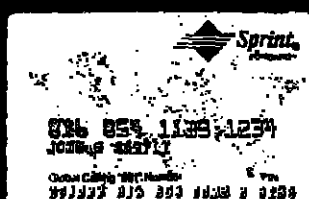
(AP)

WEATHER

Forecast for Friday through Sunday, as provided by AccuWeather.

Europe				Asia			
Country	Today	Friday	Saturday	Country	Today	Friday	Saturday
Algeria	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Bangladesh	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Andorra	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Bhutan	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Austria	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	China	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Belgium	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	India	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Bulgaria	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Indonesia	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Czech Rep.	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Japan	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Denmark	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Korea	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
France	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Malaysia	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Germany	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Nepal	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Greece	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Philippines	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Hungary	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Singapore	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Ireland	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Sri Lanka	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Italy	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Taiwan	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Latvia	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Thailand	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Lithuania	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Turkey	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Malta	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Ukraine	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Netherlands	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	USA	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Norway	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66	Vietnam	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70	31/88 24/70
Poland	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Portugal	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Romania	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Russia	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Slovakia	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Slovenia	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Spain	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Sweden	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Switzerland	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Turkey	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Ukraine	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
USA	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				
Vietnam	27/80 17/62	28/82 18/64	29/84 19/66				


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Bulgaria	80-800-1070	Korea (Korea)	800-1000	Slovenia	001-600-745-1111		
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THE AMERICAS

Few Hopes of Finding More Bodies in TWA Wreck

WASHINGTON — Divers are unlikely to be able to find more bodies in the wreckage of TWA Flight 800 in the Atlantic Ocean off Long Island, the National Transportation Safety Board said Wednesday.

"In terms of folks that are out there hoping, I wouldn't get my hopes up too high," the board's vice chairman, Robert Francis, told a television network. The search was still on, he said, but added, "It's been a long time."

Investigators have recovered 195 bodies of the 230 people who were killed when the plane exploded and crashed July 17 off the coast of New York.

Mr. Francis said, "I think to have found as many as have been found is quite something." He added that he continued to give equal weight to theories that the crash was caused by a bomb, a missile, or a mechanical problem.

"I don't think there's anything up to this point that's pointing us in a particular direction," he said.

Cockpit Dials Are Unbroken

Serge F. Kovalski and Don Phillips of The Washington Post reported earlier from Smithtown, New York:

Glass was unbroken in many of the dials in the crushed cockpit of Flight 800, a discovery that investigators said indicated an explosion did not occur in that portion of the airplane.

Mr. Francis said the light fixture and bulb at the top of the spiral staircase to the plane's upper level also were unbroken.

Investigators were just beginning to unravel the one-ton mass of twisted metal and wire that has been identified as the cockpit area, Mr. Francis said Tuesday. But he noted that technicians had been struck by the fact that the glass in "lots of dials" was not shattered.

"There is no indication at this point of anything that would give cause for concern in terms of something that was initiated there," Mr. Francis said.

If further tests indicate there was no explosion in the cockpit or in the upper section behind the cockpit, then whatever event brought down the plane probably originated in the forward cargo hold or upstairs, in or near the first-class section.

That also would eliminate as a possible hiding place for a bomb a box of corneas loaded in the cockpit at the last moment for transplant operations in France.

Whatever its source, the FBI has said repeatedly there was an explosion in the Boeing 747, although the agency has never fully explained why it is so certain. At a news briefing Tuesday, the head of the FBI's New York office, James Kallstrom, said, "We know there was a catastrophic explosion on the plane, but we don't know what caused it."

Investigators are hopeful that the recent recovery of a one-ton portion of the jumbo jet's cockpit will provide them with further clues. But it may be some time before investigators are able to untangle the severely mangled ball of wreckage.

"It's just the most unbelievable piece of rubble in the world," Mr. Kallstrom said in an interview Monday. "It's like something Andy Warhol put together on his worst night. It looks like something from outer space. It's like a big ball of string. It is so tight you can't get your arm in it or see inside."

Mr. Francis said that U.S. Navy salvage ships and divers had so far recovered 15 percent to 20 percent of the aircraft.



A U.S. Navy diver exploring the debris field from Flight 800 with Mark-21 surface supply diving equipment.

CIA Probes Arkansas Smuggling Tie

By Susan Schmidt
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The CIA's inspector general is investigating claims that U.S. intelligence agencies were involved in illegal arms shipments and drug smuggling at an isolated airstrip in Mena, Arkansas, during the years Bill Clinton was governor.

A spokesman for the CIA said Inspector General Frederick P. Hitz was preparing a report on allegations that the CIA was involved in arms shipments from Mena to the Nicaraguan rebels during the 1980s, and that pilots hired by the agency brought back large shipments of cocaine.

The CIA spokesman, Mark Mansfield, said the inspector general would report on possible contacts between the agency and Arkansas state officials during the 1980s. His report also will deal with allegations that the CIA attempted to influence or curtail law enforcement investigations of Mena.

Mr. Hitz was asked to investigate the

Mena airport by the director of central intelligence, John M. Deutch, who was acting on a request from the chairman of the House Banking Committee, Jim Leach, an Iowa Republican. Mr. Leach's panel is looking into the possible laundering of drug money generated at Mena.

Mr. Leach's Banking Committee staff has been looking at a variety of claims about Mena emanating from a collection of Arkansas law enforcement officials and various figures operating in the shadowy underworld on contract with intelligence agencies.

One congressional investigator likened sorting through the allegations to being trapped in "a hall of mirrors."

The latest Mena claims are contained in "Boy Clinton," a book by the editor of the American Spectator, R. Emmett Tyrrell, published this week. In it, Mr. Tyrrell asserts that Mr. Clinton knew about CIA operations and cocaine smuggling at Mena. He cites as sources Arkansas state troopers, including one

on the governor's security detail who says he was also a contract employee for the CIA during the mid-1980s and informed Mr. Clinton of what was going on at Mena.

Mr. Clinton has said he had nothing to do with any activities at Mena. "Mena is the darkest backwater of the right wing conspiracy industry," said a White House spokesman, Mark Fabiani. "The allegations are as bizarre as they are false."

Member Loses Seat

DETROIT — Representative Barbara-Rose Collins failed to overcome an ethics investigation and a series of political missteps, becoming just the second House member to lose a seat in a primary this year.

The three-term Democrat from Detroit, facing an investigation into allegations of misuse of congressional resources, lost to veteran state Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick in Tuesday's primary.

Mrs. Kilpatrick won 51 percent of the vote to Mrs. Collins's 31 percent. Five other candidates split the remainder. (AP)

Dole Near Decision

SAN DIEGO — Bob Dole, the Republican candidate for president, told senior aides Wednesday that he had narrowed his search for a running mate to three prospects and was "very near" a final decision, campaign sources said.

The sources spoke on condition of anonymity and refused to name the finalists.

Mr. Dole spent time Tuesday meeting with Roderick DeArment, the lawyer heading the background investigation of the vice presidential prospects. At a morning meeting with several top campaign aides Wednesday, Mr. Dole said he was on track to meet a campaign plan to announce the choice Saturday in his home town of Russell, Kansas. (AP)

Labor Aims New Ads

WASHINGTON — The AFL-CIO is broadcasting new ads that criticize 33 Republican lawmakers labor says tried to make it easier for companies to raid pensions. House Republicans have a new spot touting their work to reform Congress.

The National Republican Congressional Committee's second ad touting the work of the 104th Congress focused on a bill that required Congress

to abide by all the laws it passes. The AFL-CIO ad is part of a \$35 million campaign it opened to reassert labor as a political force. (AP)

Clinton Cleans Up

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton has signed a major overhaul of the nation's safe drinking water laws that dramatically toughens standards and authorizes \$7.6 billion over seven years for a revolving loan fund to improve badly deteriorating water systems throughout the country.

Mr. Clinton and Republican and Democratic lawmakers hailed the legislation as a major breakthrough, because for the first time local water authorities will be required to disclose annually what chemicals and bacteria are in drinking water, as well as give public notice within 24 hours of discovering a dangerous contaminant in the water system. The measure also creates a program to fight pollution at its sources by keeping streams and rivers clean. (WP)

Arson Inquiry Aid

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton has signed legislation providing an additional \$12 million to finance investigations of church burnings.

The money will be used by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which has more than 100 agents investigating a string of suspicious fires at churches in the South.

The money in the bill signed Tuesday was tucked into a much larger spending measure for agriculture, rural development and the Food and Drug Administration. (AP)

Quote/Unquote

Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary, announcing two federal contracts to clean up nuclear weapons sites in Washington state, under a new system that pegs payment to performance: "If contractors don't deliver on their commitments, we don't deliver on their fee." (WP)

Away From Politics

• Car crashes cost \$150.5 billion in 1994 in wrecked property and medical bills, or \$580 for every man, woman and child in the country, the government has calculated. (AP)

• New York City will make its first major cut in recycling next month when it scales back collections for half its households. The reduction — from weekly to alternate-week pickups as of Sept. 9 — follows a \$26 million cut in the city's recycling budget. (NYT)

• A 59-year-old woman with Lou Gehrig's disease became the 34th per-

son to commit suicide with help from Dr. Jack Kevorkian, who wheeled her body into an emergency room in Pontiac, Michigan. Elizabeth Mertz of Cincinnati died a day after traveling to see Dr. Kevorkian, his lawyer, Geoffrey Fieger, said. (AP)

• The U.S. Postal Service has made \$1.6 billion so far this fiscal year, which makes it likely that the agency will post its second consecutive profit, the postmaster general said in Washington. (AP)

• Mark Mastin, a truck driver in Canandaigua, New York, who was portrayed as being enraged at his unfaithful wife for staying out late, has been convicted of sending fire to their house and killing their three young children. (AP)

Texas Congressional Districts Recast

Court, Ordering New Elections, Alters 13 of 30 Seats Over Race

By Ruth Marcus
and Guy Gugliotta
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A federal court has thrown Texas politics into disarray by redrawing nearly half the state's congressional districts and ordering new elections in November.

In an order issued Tuesday, a panel of three federal judges redrew 13 of the state's 30 districts to comply with a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in June. The Supreme Court found that three predominantly black and Hispanic congressional districts were drawn with too much attention to race.

Political analysts in both parties said most of the affected incumbents would probably retain their seats in the redrawn districts. They said the biggest likelihood of change was in two dis-

tricts, now in Democratic hands, that have become slightly more Republican: one held by Representative Ken Bentsen and one being vacated by Representative John Bryant.

The Texas delegation is split, 18-12, in favor of Democrats.

The action adds new uncertainty to the November elections and could mean that control of the House might not be decided until runoff elections in the new districts in December. Some of those involved in the case said they plan to ask the Supreme Court to allow the elections to go forward under the old districts.

Incumbents in the new districts include such powerful Republicans as the House majority leader, Richard Armitage; the majority whip, Tom DeLay, and the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Bill Archer. Their redrawn dis-

tricts continue to be heavily Republican and they are not likely to be greatly affected, both Democratic and Republican analysts said.

Likewise, the new lines in the districts the Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional appeared favorable for such Democratic incumbents as Representatives Sheila Jackson Lee, Eddie Bernice Johnson and Gene Green.

"It could have been worse, that's all I'll say," said Representative Martin Frost, chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. His district in Dallas became slightly more Democratic under the new plan.

Said Craig Veith, spokesman for the National Republican Congressional Committee: "It keeps our Republican incumbents solid."

After the Supreme Court ruling, Governor George Bush, a Republican, declined to call a special legislative session to redraw district lines, deciding to leave it to the court. Rejecting pleas to give the state more time to act, the court said it was wrong to let another election go forward with what it said were grossly unconstitutional districts.

The court drew new district boundaries, seven in Houston and six in Dallas. Throwing out the June primary results, it ordered special elections in those districts for Nov. 5, with a runoff in December if necessary.

Dole Plan Would Help the Rich Most

By Paul Blustein
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Republican and Democratic economists may argue over whether Bob Dole's new tax cut plan would help the economy or hurt it. But this much is indisputable: The biggest tax breaks would go to people with lots of assets or lots of children.

As with any "supply side" tax cut, in which tax rates are reduced on income and investments, rich taxpayers would come away with the biggest gains — in the neighborhood of \$10,000 for a taxpayer earning about \$250,000 a year.

That's a good deal more than the \$400 that the presumptive Republican presidential nominee's 15 percent across-the-board cut in rates would save a couple earning an annual income of \$35,000.

But Mr. Dole leavened the supply-side portion of his proposal with what his campaign calls a "pro-family" provision, a \$500-a-child credit that would benefit middle-class taxpayers — at least ones with children.

If that \$35,000-a-year couple had two

dependent children, their federal income tax bill would be cut in half, by \$1,400, under Mr. Dole's plan.

So in an echo of Ronald Reagan's 1981 tax cut, Mr. Dole has advanced a proposal that would make the rich considerably richer — under the controversial theory that with lower taxes, they will invest more, which in turn will spur economic growth. But by offering the sweetener of the child credit, he can claim that he also is offering savings to millions of the less well-to-do and avoid the charge that he would shift the tax burden from rich to poor.

"The people who get the most help from this plan are people who pay the most under present law, and that tends to be people in the highest tax brackets," said Clint Stretch, director of tax legislative affairs at Deloitte & Touche, an accounting firm. But, Mr. Stretch said, the most significant distributional shift implied by Mr. Dole's plan, he said, "is probably between people who have children and people who don't."

Under Mr. Dole's plan, high-income taxpayers would gain not only from the

15 percent rate cut, but also from a halving in the top tax rate on capital gains — a proposal that would benefit upper-income taxpayers disproportionately because they own most of the stocks, real estate and other assets that are sold at a profit. The proposal also would reduce the tax bills of the rich by repealing a 1993 tax increase on Social Security benefits of upper-income retirees.

Reform Party Doesn't Deliver

The Associated Press

DALLAS — In an echo of complaints that followed the last Reform Party vote-through-the-mail effort, some party supporters have said they were not getting the new, second wave of ballots, as promised.

The first mailing was a survey in July to see which candidates should represent the Reform Party. The second mailing, which went out this month, is a ballot for party members to say whether they want Richard Lamm, the former governor of Colorado, or the party founder, Ross Perot, to represent them in November's presidential elections.

The Reform Party's Dallas headquarters received numerous complaints about the first mailing, but its national coordinator, Russ Verney, said he had

received no complaints. He said some ballots were still in the mail.

But one party member, Nancy Connerus, has received three ballots already.

"I'm furious. I don't think they've cleaned up that list at all," she said, adding that her name was spelled differently on the ballots and that there were different identification numbers. Her biggest concern was the possibility for voter fraud.

"There's a real temptation to fill them all out," she said.

Margaret Lorette of Palo Alto, California, has not received a ballot. She never received the earlier survey, either, despite calls to make sure she was listed. "I'm really upset about it," she said. "I'm supporting Dick Lamm and I'd like to be counted."



GIVE US OUR DAILY BREAD — Women attending mass near Buenos Aires on Wednesday, the day before a planned nationwide strike by unions and opposition parties protesting recent austerity measures.

U.S. Approves AIDS Urine Test

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — U.S. health officials have approved the first urine test to detect HIV, the AIDS virus but said it was not as accurate as the standard blood test.

The urine test was approved Tuesday as a supplemental diagnostic test, but is not meant to substitute for the standard blood test to screen donors at blood banks, officials of the Food and Drug Administration said.

Studies showed that the number of times the urine test failed to detect HIV in an individual known to be infected was higher than for the standard blood test.

Those who test positive for HIV with the urine test are advised to get a second urine test, and then, if that is also positive, a blood test for confirmation. The U.S. agency has advised doctors to explain that a negative urine test is not a guarantee of being free of infection.

ASIA/PACIFIC

Tamils Slow Government Offensive

Rebels Say Civilians Lack Food and Water

COLOMBO — Tamil rebels reported fierce fighting Wednesday with Sri Lankan troops in a battle for a key guerrilla-held northern town and said some 200,000 homeless civilians were desperately in need of food and water.

Diplomats said the government troops, backed by armor, artillery and air cover, had apparently failed to breach the defenses of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam on Tuesday after at least two attempts.

Troops were continuing their advance on the town of Kilinochchi, the Tigers' base on the northern Tamil mainland, the military said, after launching an assault on July 26.

"Terrorists continue to engage the advancing troops from well-fortified defenses," the army said.

The rebel Voice of Tigers radio, in its own account of the battle, called the fighting fierce.

"LTTE fighters have killed 200 soldiers in the battle so far," it said, adding, "There is a severe shortage of food and water among the civilians. The army is deliberately starving the Tamils."

Diplomats said troops were expected eventually to take Kilinochchi, but there was uncertainty over what tangible gains could be achieved.

"The troops are getting stretched, the people are fleeing into other LTTE-held areas, so what's the gain?" asked one diplomat. "At the moment, it seems the army is helping the Tigers unwittingly."

There were questions about the army's reluctance to allow food into the northern Tiger-held areas, diplomats said.

Aid workers who visited refugee camps in the northern Wanni mainland said people were running out of water because of a drought and that no food had been shipped to the region for nearly three weeks.

"There is no movement of food," an official with the Sri Lanka Red Cross said. There is "some discussion going on," he said, with the Defense Ministry.



DIKE DANGER — A Filipino woman protesting Wednesday in Angeles City against the building of a dike that will endanger neighboring towns with mudflows from Mount Pinatubo.

Sprouts a Suspect in Epidemic

By Mary Jordan
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — The health minister said Wednesday that radish sprouts served in school lunches and in a nursing home probably caused Japan's worst outbreak of food poisoning in decades.

"We cannot say definitely that the radish sprouts" caused the epidemic, Health Minister Naoto Kan said, adding that signs pointed that way.

More than 6,000 children in the city of Sakai in western Japan

were sickened last month by a strain of the E. coli bacteria known as O-157, and many children continue to have severe kidney problems. In all, more than 9,000 people became sick and seven died.

Mr. Kan said that the only food that virtually all the Sakai students had in common was milk, bread and radish sprouts, and that only the sprouts came from one supplier. That same supplier also distributed sprouts to a nursing home in Osaka where elderly patients became sick.

The lingering uncertainty over what caused the outbreak has panicked many people and kept them away from restaurants.

So many people have stopped buying beef that July sales in the Osaka region, for example, were down 56 percent from July 1995. The fish industry said its sales there were off 42 percent. Beef and raw fish were among the leading suspects of carrying the E. coli bacteria.

Restaurant owners picketed Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's office Wednesday, complaining that through no fault of their own their businesses have suffered. Swimming clubs and public bathhouses have been unusually empty this summer, as people stay away out of fear that the infection could be passed along in water.

The suspected radish sprouts, similar to alfalfa sprouts used in salads elsewhere, were grown in beds of water. Some experts have speculated that the water might have been contaminated.

So far, scientists and experts have not found the deadly bacteria where the sprouts were grown, health officials said. But they noted that the investigation at a farm near Osaka was continuing.

Suharto Assails Activists

Compiled by Our Staff From Disparat

JAKARTA — President Suharto on Wednesday accused a pro-democracy group of subversive activities. Mr. Suharto was quoted by Information Minister Harmoko as saying that the People's Democratic Party had been "clearly involved in subversive activities."

Senior government and military officials have accused members of the unauthorized party of being Communists and of instigating riots in Jakarta. The unrest began after the police raided the headquarters of a legal opposition party July 27.

Meanwhile, a lawyers' group filed a criminal complaint Wednesday accusing Surjadi, the rival of the opposition leader, Megawati Sukarnoputri, of causing the rioting. Mrs. Megawati's supporters were in the headquarters when it was raided. (AFP, AP)

BRIEFLY ASIA

Japan Cult to Pay Damages

TOKYO — A court Wednesday ordered two leaders of an apocalyptic cult to pay more than \$1.5 million to the family of a man whose murder has been blamed on the cult.

Prosecutors said the leader, Shoko Asahara, ordered members of his Aum Shinrikyo cult to abduct and murder Kiyoshi Kariya in February 1995 as punishment for persuading his sister to leave the cult. The co-defendant, Noboru Nakamura, one of Mr. Asahara's top lieutenants, allegedly helped other cult members carry out the abduction and the murder.

The presiding judge, Yasushi Sato, said the two men had technically acknowledged responsibility for Mr. Kariya's death by refusing to have proxies show up in court and failing to turn in affidavits. (AP)

Bangladesh Urges Arms Surrender

DHAKA, Bangladesh — The authorities on Wednesday announced a three-day amnesty for the surrender of illegal weapons and ammunition, after the failure of a five-week appeal to those holding such arms.

The Home Ministry, under pressure to crack down on violent crime, wanted in a statement that "stern action" would be taken against anyone ignoring the amnesty. It added that those who surrendered their arms would not be charged with possession. (AFP)

Vietnam Refugee Dies in Protest

HONG KONG — A Vietnamese man protesting forced repatriation by the Hong Kong government fell to his death at a detention center Wednesday, a government spokesman said.

The 31-year-old man fell after climbing up a water tank tower. His protest came as the government sought to remove some 650 Vietnamese refugees to Victoria Prison as a prelude to their repatriation starting next week. (AFP)

For the Record

South Korea returned the bodies of two North Korean soldiers and two civilian women retrieved south of the border after they drowned in floods last month, witnesses said Wednesday. (Reuters)

VOICES From Asia

Ruben Torres, executive secretary to President Fidel V. Ramos of the Philippines, urged a southern city to abandon plans to create an armed militia to defend against feared attacks by Muslim separatists. "There is no reason to panic and start buying arms. We have to look into this kind of hysteria and we have to talk to them patiently." (AFP)

Prime Minister John Howard of Australia, pledging strong security for the 2000 Olympics in Sydney if necessary, but noting that it would be kept as relaxed as possible. "We have our own culture, our own style and we want the Games of the new millennium to be an event that people remember, enjoy and feel free and happy about." (Reuters)

Yellow River Banks Bulge; Thousands Evacuated

Reuters

BEIJING — China's rain-swollen Yellow River threatened to burst its banks Wednesday, prompting officials to evacuate thousands of people and to mobilize troops and volunteers to guard protective dikes.

In central Henan province, officials said the river had risen to a record high over the weekend and was racing closer to protective dikes.

"The water of the Yellow River is just two or three meters from the dike, while normally it should be two or three kilometers from the dikes," an official of the Yellow River Anti-Flood Headquarters said.

The flood peak was expected to reach the mouth of the river late Wednesday, after rushing through the eastern coastal province of Shandong, he said.

An official in Shandong said that the rainfall along the Yellow River had been 30 percent higher than usual this year and that 375,000 troops and volunteers had been mobilized to mount a round-the-clock guard along 185 kilometers (115 miles) of dikes near the provincial capital, Jinan.

The flood peak was roaring through Jinan at 4,000 cubic meters (141,250 cubic feet) a second, but dikes were able to withstand waters racing at up to 10,000 cubic meters a second, the Shandong official said.

As they passed through Henan, floodwaters inundated villages perched between the usual path of the river and the protective dikes, forcing the evacuation of more than 200,000 people. A further 30,000 were being moved to higher ground on the north bank, the anti-flood headquarters official said.

Two typhoons last week raised the death toll from floods in nine provinces in central and southern China to more than 2,000 in recent weeks. Officials said last week that more than 5 million tons of crops had been destroyed.

Recent downpours across southeastern and central China after the two typhoons further swelled the waters of the Yangtze and the northern Haihe river. Millions of people were on 24-hour alert along the banks in case the rivers overflowed, officials said.

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EUROPE

Austria Balks at Joining NATO

Foreign Minister Schuessel Stresses Attachment to Neutrality

VIENNA — Foreign Minister Wolfgang Schuessel on Wednesday appeared to change course on a future NATO membership for Austria, saying his country was not negotiating a deal with the alliance or planning to abandon its long-held neutrality.

"Our way is not the elimination of neutrality," Mr. Schuessel said after a cabinet meeting. "We are not going to plunge head first into the NATO pool if it isn't even clear if it's filled with water."

Mr. Schuessel seemed to be backing down from recent suggestions that joining the Western alliance was the best way forward for Austria, whose former communist neighbors are all seeking speedy membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The conservative foreign minister had proposed Friday that Austria should become fully involved in a European community comprising the EU, the EU's defense arm the Western European Union and NATO.

But Mr. Schuessel's comments Wednesday were more guarded. He said NATO was undergoing a profound process of change after the collapse of the

Cold War system, redefining its goals and expanding its membership.

"Austria should decide about joining once NATO has put its decisions on the table," he said.

NATO membership and the future of neutrality have triggered a cross-party political debate since Austria joined the European Union in January 1995.

Austria, straddling the traditional border between the rival eastern and western blocs, has been neutral since 1955, when it inaugurated its post-World War II constitution. The Soviet Union, which jointly occupied Austria after the war, demanded that Austria enshrine neutrality in its national charter before Soviet troops were withdrawn.

Austria is still sensitive about the notion of joining a military alliance. But the government is aware that the prospect of its neighbors — the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia and Slovakia — becoming NATO members could leave Austria out of security decision-making.

Mr. Schuessel said Austria was leaving its options open but he noted that the coalition pact signed by his People's Party and Chancellor Franz Vranitzky's Social Democrats in March foresaw

participation in a functional European security system.

"Our way leads us via the European Union and the Western European Union to the developing security structures of Europe," Mr. Schuessel said.

"NATO is facing the biggest decisions since its inception," he said. "The new NATO will be completely different, an organization for stability, and that could be an interesting option."

U.S. in Black Sea Games

The United States said Wednesday that it would take part in Briz 96, a multinational humanitarian and peace-keeping exercise sponsored by Bulgaria that starts Saturday and lasts until Aug. 16 in the Black Sea, Reuters reported from Rome.

The U.S. Sixth Fleet, based in Naples, said the exercise would involve naval units from several Black Sea and NATO nations. "U.S. participation in Briz 96 demonstrates an enduring interest in the stability of Eastern Europe," a U.S. statement said.

A U.S. Navy guided missile frigate and a U.S. Coast Guard cutter will take part in the exercise.

Holocaust Book Hits the Shelves In Germany

BONN — A controversial U.S. book accusing ordinary Germans of willingly helping the Nazis execute millions of Jews hit bookstores across Germany on Wednesday and retailers said it might make the bestseller lists.

The German translation of "Hitler's Willing Executioners," by a Harvard sociologist, Daniel Jonah Goldhagen, also appeared certain to revive debate about its highly disputed conclusions, first sparked when the U.S. version appeared in April.

Mr. Goldhagen contends that Germans during the Third Reich were not only anti-Semitic, but also very willing and happy to kill Jews, a thesis many historians in Germany, the United States and Israel have rejected as too simple to explain the Nazi genocide.

The book went on sale in some stores on Wednesday and most retailers said they expected to have it in stock by Thursday.

Booksellers in Frankfurt, Berlin and Munich said they had sold their first copies of the book and expected sales to surge when the author visits Germany next month. (Reuters, AP)

Turkish Leader Rejects Talks With Rebel Kurds

Erbakan Won't 'Sit at Table With Terror'

ANKARA — Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan ruled out on Wednesday direct talks with Kurdish guerrillas as part of an Islamist peace plan to end 12 years of separatist rebellion.

"We will give no concessions in the fight against terrorism; we will not sit at the table with terror," he said after a meeting with President Suleyman Demirel.

Ismail Nacar, an Islamist writer and a member of Parliament who belongs to Mr. Erbakan's Welfare Party, recently met with moderate Kurdish leaders to try to resolve the conflict between security forces and guerrillas of the Kurdistan Workers Party.

More than 20,000 people have been killed in the fighting.

Mr. Nacar said Wednesday that Kurdish rebels would release eight soldiers captured during clashes with the Turkish Army and would ask nothing in return.

Mr. Nacar's efforts came amid what appears to be a split in Mr. Erbakan's coalition on how to handle the Kurdish conflict.

His party is apparently willing to enlist the help of nongovernmental groups to negotiate an end to the fighting, but a majority in the True Path Party of Tansu Ciller, Mr. Erbakan's coalition partner, oppose the move.

Mr. Erbakan tried to play down the split Wednesday.

"It is impossible for Turkey to abandon its approach of a single nation, single flag and unitary state," he said.

The rebels declared a unilateral cease-fire in December, but Turkey has ignored it.

Security officials said that troops killed 24 guerrillas in separate clashes in five different southeastern provinces on Tuesday and Wednesday. They gave no information on government casualties. (Reuters, AP)

BRIEFLY EUROPE

U.K. Curbs Londonderry March

BELFAST — The British government closed a large section of the ancient walls of Londonderry on Wednesday in an effort to head off a violent confrontation during a Protestant parade planned for Saturday.

The Northern Ireland secretary, Patrick Mayhew, said that the Protestant Apprentice Boys would be stopped from marching on the walls overlooking the Catholic Bogside area.

The Apprentice Boys had planned to parade along the city's 17th-century walls in a display of their commitment to British rule. But Catholics in what is a Irish nationalist stronghold bitterly opposed the plan.

Sectarian friction over Protestant marches in other towns in the province erupted in widespread clashes last month that caused two deaths, hundreds of injuries and a rift in British-Irish relations. (AFP, Reuters)

Sampaio Leaves the Hospital

LISBON — President Jorge Sampaio left the hospital on Wednesday more than a week after successful heart surgery.

"I feel good and willing to get down to work," Mr. Sampaio, 56, said outside the hospital near Lisbon.

Doctors said he had made a good recovery after the operation on July 27. He will convalesce for a few weeks, officials said.

Surgeons replaced Mr. Sampaio's mitral valve, which controls the flow of blood from the heart to the aorta, with a metallic substitute and corrected a large aneurysm, or blood-filled dilation of a blood vessel. (Reuters)

New Airbus Inquiry Is Ordered

NANCY, France — A judge has ordered a new inquiry into an Airbus crash in 1992 that killed 87 people, after an expert's report found that the guidance system of the jetliner may have been to blame.

An earlier investigation of the crash, in which an Airbus A320 struck a mountain near Strasbourg, found the state-owned airline Air Inter responsible for failing to equip its A300s with a Ground Proximity Warning System.

But a new report, submitted last month to an investigating judge, found a possible "malfunctioning of the radio guidance system" while the plane was on its landing approach. The possible glitch "resulted in a trajectory gap by 7 degrees to the left of the approach axis at the moment of impact," wrote the expert, Max Venet. He noted, however, "the lack of certain elements of proof" that the system malfunctioned. (AP)

Leaflet Ban Attacked in France

ORANGE, France — A far-right mayor was accused Wednesday of "ideological cleansing" after he banned all leaflets, including political tracts, from his town in southern France, saying they harm the environment.

Opponents of the mayor, Jacques Bompard, who is a member of the National Front, contended the move was aimed at stifling political freedom in Orange.

"Ideological cleansing is under way," said Thierry Mariani, a deputy from the Rally for the Republic party. He filed a legal challenge Wednesday to the ban. (AFP)

Large Cocaine Haul in Spain

MADRID — The Spanish police have seized 1.2 tons of Colombian cocaine in the northern city of Santander, officials said Wednesday.

The cache was worth 80 billion pesetas (\$634 million), they said. Two Spaniards were arrested, but a third man believed to be from Brazil got away, a police commissioner said.

The drugs had been smuggled in a consignment of wood aboard a Brazilian-registered ship that sailed from Colombia, the commissioner, Agustin Ariznavarreta, said. (Reuters)

Ex-Nazi Retains a Top Lawyer

ROME — Erich Priebke, the former SS captain who is challenging his rearrest after a military court ordered him freed in a war crimes trial, added one of Italy's leading criminal defense lawyers to his legal team Wednesday.

The lawyer, Carlo Toarmina, has defended some of Italy's most prominent politicians in corruption cases.

Mr. Priebke, 83, has been imprisoned in Rome since Friday, when he was rearrested on a temporary detention order after Germany indicated that it wanted to extradite him for trial there. (Reuters)

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INTERNATIONAL

Rebels Dominate Chechen Capital

Fires Spread, Government Buildings Besieged

By Michael Specter
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — Rebels dedicated to humiliating President Boris Yeltsin just days before his inauguration took virtual control of the ruined secessionist capital of Chechnya on Wednesday, killing scores of Russian soldiers, wounding hundreds more and sending rings of fire spreading across the city.

The audacious assault on Grozny, which the Russian Air Force practically leveled in 1995, began Tuesday and raged throughout the day as Russian helicopter gunships tried desperately to pick off the rebels with rockets that mostly, according to reports from the scene, killed civilians. Their corpses were strewn on the bomb-scarred roadways.

After rolling through roadblocks, capturing two major militia stations and the central telephone exchange office, the Chechen separatists — working in groups of no more than 10 to 20 fighters — spent most of the day laying siege to the heavily fortified government building in the center of the city.

Giant columns of black smoke spiraled into the sky as the rebels pummeled the stone building with rocket launchers from as close as 30 yards, according to reports from Russian journalists who remained trapped in a bunker beneath the building.

The city, already scorched and twisted beyond imagination, shook throughout the day with rocket attacks and bomb blasts. The separatists carried out a similar assault in March, but this attack has proved far more deadly. Russian military officials said Wednesday night that more than 50 of their soldiers had been killed in the two days of fighting, and more than 250 were wounded. There is no way of verifying those figures — or most of the contradictory and confused information emerging from the city.

Russian leaders alternated between vowing revenge and asserting that the battle was over.

"The situation in Grozny is perfectly under our full control now," said Dzhokur Zavgayev, the man who was installed as the leader of the republic by Russian forces. He spoke late Wednesday afternoon from a heavily guarded position at the Khankala airport, a major Russian military base, where he was evacuated along with most of the other government leaders early in the day.

Reporters and military officials in Grozny laughed when they heard Mr. Zavgayev's assertion that all was well.

"It is impossible to comment on these words because of their obvious absurdity," Valeri Yakov wrote in an article for Thursday's edition of Izvestiya. Mr. Yakov, one of the most

experienced of the Chechen war correspondents, is in Grozny.

Mr. Yakov, who was not among those trapped in the government building, spoke to a colleague there who said the building was surrounded and Chechen leaders had vowed to capture it by Friday, the day of Mr. Yeltsin's inauguration.

Mr. Yeltsin made stopping the war in the southern republic one of the cornerstones of his re-election campaign. After the first round of voting he named the army's best-known critic of the war, Alexander Lebed, as security czar. That convinced many skeptics that Mr. Yeltsin was serious about finding a way out of the war that has taken at least 30,000 lives since it began in December 1994.

But Mr. Lebed, since assuming his new role, has mostly sounded like a militant spokesman for Mr. Yeltsin. He has long promised to go to Chechnya to try and negotiate, but so far no dates have been set for his trip.

"This war is beneficial for too many people," Mr. Lebed said Wednesday. "The roots of the war are economic. We have to create a way to bring the two sides to the bargaining table. It is a tortuous path but it is the only way."

The trouble is that the two sides have been at the bargaining table several times, most famously in the Kremlin this spring when Mr. Yeltsin and the leader of the separatists, Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, signed a peace accord that lasted only until the election was over. No one in any negotiations has managed to address the central issues: Chechen rebels want independence and the Kremlin insists that the republic is part of Russia.

Yeltsin Inauguration Is Shifted Indoors

Reuters

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin on Wednesday scrapped plans to be sworn in for his second term under the glittering domes of the Kremlin and moved the ceremony indoors, increasing doubts about his health.

Mr. Yeltsin will now be inaugurated in the Kremlin Palace, built in 1961 by Nikita Khrushchev for Communist Party meetings, instead of the ornate Cathedral Square, where church bells would have chimed in his new four-year term.

Although the Kremlin said the last-minute decision was a cost-cutting measure, the move posed new questions about the 65-year-old president's ability to cope even with the planned 30-minute outdoor ceremony.



Chechen fighters advancing on Wednesday in Grozny, where Russian forces held out in the city center.

Hernan Siles Zuazo, Ex-Bolivia Leader

The Associated Press

LA PAZ — Hernan Siles Zuazo, 82, a leader of Bolivia's 1952 revolution who went on to serve two separate terms as president, has died.

Mr. Siles Zuazo died Tuesday night in Montevideo after a long illness. Bolivia's minister of information, Guillermo Richter, said Wednesday.

Mr. Siles Zuazo was president of Bolivia from 1956 to 1960 and from 1982 to 1985. His presidency in 1982 restored democracy to Bolivia after nearly 18 years of military rule.

A lawyer and the son of a former president, Mr. Siles Zuazo was considered one of Bolivia's elder statesmen. His father, Hernando Siles Reyes, led Bolivia from 1926 to 1930.

Mr. Siles Zuazo founded the Revolutionary Nationalist Movement Party in 1942, and was one of the leaders of the 1952 revolution that enacted land reform, nationalized mines and created universal suffrage.

He served as vice president from 1952 to 1956 under Victor Paz Estenssoro, another leader of the revolution. The two later split.

Loret Miller Ruppe, 60, Served 8 Years as Peace Corps Leader

The New York Times

Loret Miller Ruppe, 60, who was head of the Peace Corps longer than anyone else in the organization's 35-year history and was credited by many with restoring much of its Kennedy-era

Under Mrs. Ruppe, the Peace Corps developed short-term programs, enabling teachers, doctors and farmers to do volunteer work overseas while on sabbaticals or even long vacations.

Bahrain Sentences 9 In Opposition Attacks

The Associated Press

MANAMA, Bahrain — Nine opposition activists convicted of planting bombs and carrying out arson attacks have been given three-year jail terms, government newspapers said Wednesday.

Five of the defendants were found guilty of planting an explosive device at a suburban school and four were found guilty of setting fire to a shoe repair shop in downtown Manama, the papers said. The sentences cannot be appealed.

vitality, died Tuesday at her home in Bethesda, Maryland. Her family said she died of ovarian cancer.

Mrs. Ruppe was appointed director of the Peace Corps by President Ronald Reagan in 1981. She served for eight years, after which she was appointed ambassador to Norway. She held that post until 1993.

Under Mrs. Ruppe, the Peace Corps developed short-term programs, enabling teachers, doctors and farmers to do volunteer work overseas while on sabbaticals or even long vacations.

Niyoshi Atsumi, 68, Starred In Popular Japan Film Series

Reuters

TOKYO — Kiyoshi Atsumi, 68, whose "Tora-san" series of films over three decades made him a folk hero at home and won a place in the Guinness Book of Records for longevity on the screen, has died.

Mr. Atsumi, who died of lung cancer on Sunday, starred as the peddler Tora-san in 48 installments of the "Otoko wa Tsurai yo" ("It's Tough Being a Man") movie series from 1969 until last year.

El Al Security Breached

Israeli Reporter Smuggles Dummy Bomb And Toy Gun Onto Flight From Tel Aviv

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — An Israeli journalist who pretended he was paralyzed smuggled a toy gun and dummy bomb hidden in a wheelchair through French and Israeli airport security, an Israeli newspaper said Wednesday.

David Suliman, a journalist with the Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper, wrote that he easily passed the security check at Ben Gurion International Airport near Tel Aviv last week.

Mr. Suliman said he never went through a metal detector before boarding an El Al Airlines flight to Paris and that his wheelchair, with the "gun" and "bomb" hidden in the seat cushion, was not checked.

The Israeli carrier is considered to have the tightest security checks of any airline in the world.

Security officials question all passengers before boarding. Those seen as potential risks, including Palestinians, Israeli Arabs and non-Jewish tourists, are questioned for as much as 30 minutes and have their suitcases searched.

Israel's Airport Authority said the journalist's stunt did not prove that there were problems with security.

"We will continue in a methodical and professional manner to deal with the key issue — spotting terrorists — and not with journalists who break the law," the airport authority said in a statement.

SIEMENS NIXDORF



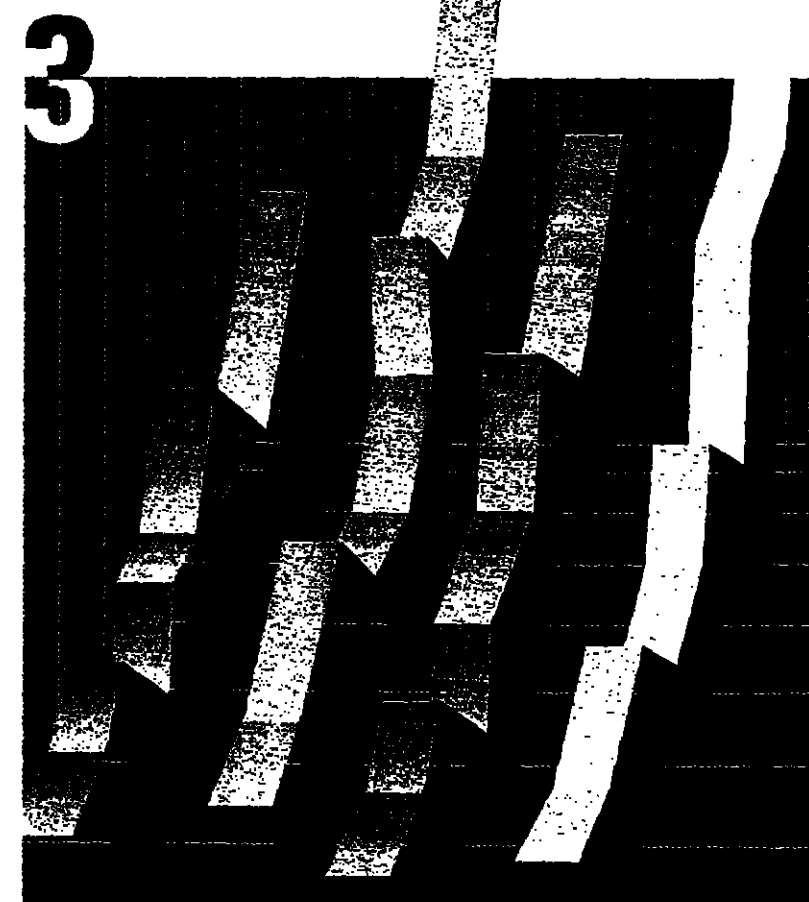
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INTERNATIONAL

Behemoths to Plow Until They Get Into Rut

By Suzanne Daley
New York Times Service

MARONDERA, Zimbabwe — In Asia, the elephant is used for all manner of labor, perhaps most notably for hauling logs in areas where tractors cannot go. But Africans have traditionally steered clear of their elephants, a bigger, more skittish breed that kills people every year and is widely believed to be untamable.

So it was not all that surprising that the visitors from Zimbabwe's Institute of Agriculture Engineering kept a good distance and even a car or a tree between themselves and Nyasha, a four-and-half-ton adolescent elephant who was busy plowing.

"It is looking as though it is not

African elephants are being trained to work the fields as an alternative to their herds being culled.

pulling anything, and those furrows are very deep," said Basilio Chikwanda, a teacher at the Harare-based institute who had brought nine students to the spectacle. "As a source of power it is quite interesting." Then he stepped behind a car.

The owners of the Imire Game Park here have started an unusual effort to train their six young elephants to work. Already, their rangers ride the enormous beasts on anti-poaching patrols around the 7,000-acre (2,800-hectare) park.

"A chap on an elephant sees a lot further in the bush than when he's just on the ground," said Peter Musavaya, 22, the ranger in charge of the training. "And it makes quite an impression on the poachers."

The elephants also cart tourists around. And while the plowing is still in its early stages, people here expect the elephants to prepare the fields for next year's feed crops.

The game park business is competitive these days and it does not hurt to have such a novelty. But the owner of the Imire Game Park, Norman Travers, is also hoping that his experiment catches on elsewhere.

In much of southern Africa, there is no shortage of elephants, and in some parts their overbrowsing is causing ecological damage that threatens other species, not to mention extensive damage to crops and risk to the farmers and their

families when hungry elephants stray from their reserves. Whether culling is necessary is a constant debate.

"How can we make use of the surplus rather than kill them?" Mr. Travers asked. "Can we maybe see a future for them through this? Using them for anti-poaching, to me that is ideal."

Despite the widespread belief that African elephants are untrainable, zoo keepers and circus trainers say they are actually more intelligent than their Indian relatives and, with patience, quite trainable. They point out that Hannibal rode African elephants over the Alps and into battle with the Romans.

"If you draw a parallel with a horse, the African elephant would be like the Arabian thoroughbred — sensitive, very bright," said Jim Stockley, a South Africa-based trainer who has prepared African elephants for circuses, zoos and movies.

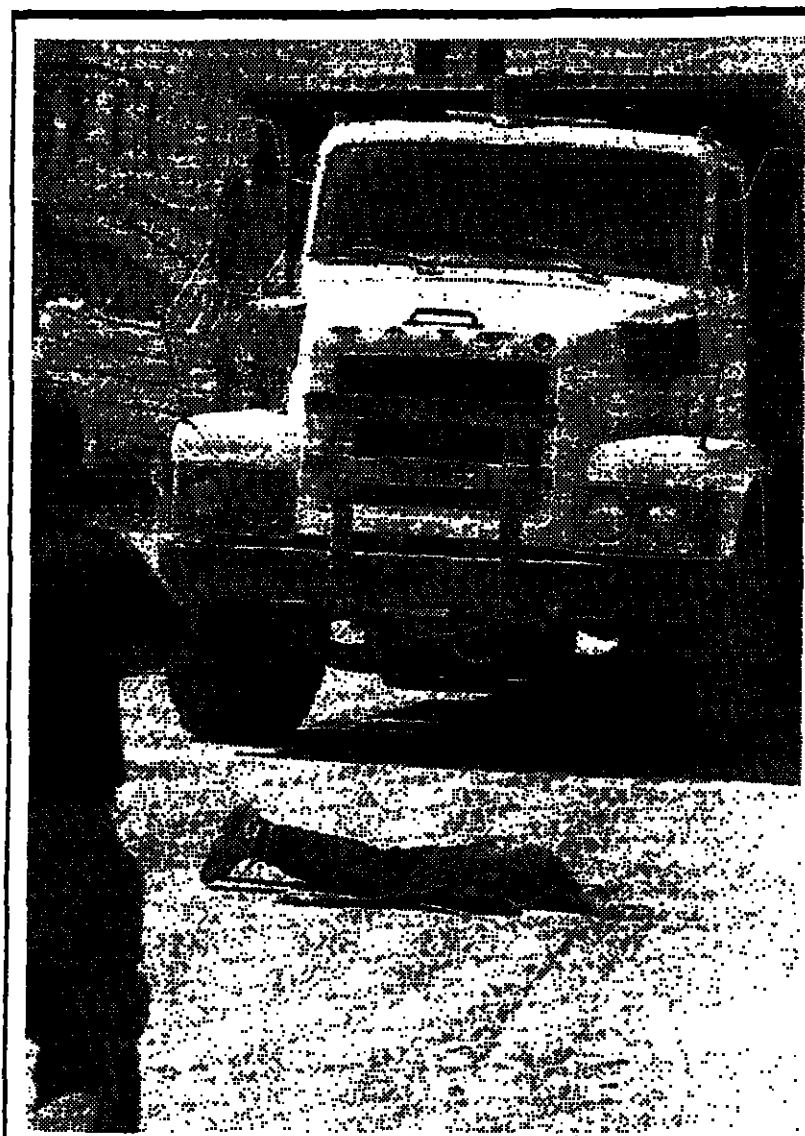
At Imire, the training system is love and reward, which means lots of talking, stroking and food. "Our basic rule is to never hurt the elephant," Mr. Musavaya said. "If you do something he thinks is unfair, if you hit him or don't feed him, he'll remember. And one day he'll bonker you."

The training starts off by naming a part of the body — literally pointing out a leg, saying "leg" and lifting your own dozens of times.

"He'll look at you for two days, thinking, 'What's this all about?'" Mr. Musavaya said. "But on 'maybe the third day he'll lift that leg just a little bit. That's when you shove his mouth full of oranges and pat him all over and give him lots of praise. The next day he'll be lifting that leg way up."

Plowing took a bit longer. Mr. Travers has documented the first efforts on his home video system, and he is glad to show them off. "Not exactly the straightest of furrows," Mr. Travers narrates over equally wobbly camera work. "But for the first time ever, it's really not so bad."

A big drawback to putting elephants to work is how much they eat — up to 500 pounds (228 kilos) of forage a day. A tractor would cost less. But at Imire,



PRISON WORK — A Palestinian warning a truck to avoid a worker in a manhole at a prison Wednesday in Bethlehem. A release of dozens of Islamic militants is being prepared, security officials said.

the tourists pay the bills, and when it comes to what they would rather ride, or see plowing the fields, an elephant will always beat a tractor.

Mr. Stockley said that as the elephants grow older they must be handled particularly carefully during certain periods of enhanced sexual drive, known as musth. Some people fear that when the trained elephants reach sexual maturity, at about age 20, they will become too ornery for domestic work,

and that the problem of whether to kill them, retire them to their holding pens or release them back to the wild will arise again.

But basically he applauds the program. "For elephants in captivity, work may actually enhance their lives," he said.

Finding young men willing to work with the elephants wasn't all that easy. When the Travers family first went looking for trainers, they did not get much response from the local community. But in a poor country a job is a job, and Morris Mukara, 20, was one of those who stepped forward.

Was he scared? "At first, I was a bit worried," he said, "but due to courage everything was all right."

Nowadays, the trainers like to ride the elephants into town and park them in front of the local grocery store.

"It really impresses the girls," Mr. Musavaya said.

Zapatista Fans Rally To Berate Capitalism

By Julia Preston
New York Times Service

LA REALIDAD, Mexico — About 2,000 sympathizers of the Zapatista rebels came to southern Mexico from around the world to meet for three days in an Indian hamlet on a plain of oozing mud to ruminate about the shortcomings of capitalism.

Leftists from 43 nations bathed in a turbid river and slept in string hammocks under tin-roof shelters that barely kept out the warm jungle downpour. In free-form debates that stretched to dawn, they denounced the global trend toward free-trade economic policies and brainstormed about carrying the Zapatista cause to their home countries.

The gathering, which ended Saturday, was a high moment for the masked Indian guerrillas and their enigmatic leader, Subcomandante Marcos, who stunned Mexico with an armed uprising on New Year's Day 1994.

But as the participants of this conference sloshed through the rainy season bog, the conclave also became an example of the trouble the Zapatistas are having in holding the political ground they seized in their one-week "war."

Their motley military force long ago ceased to pose any threat to the Mexican government, if it ever did. Now they are holed up in distant rain forest canyons in the state of Chiapas, struggling to build on the fame and credibility they gained from the rebellion to mobilize an unarmed nationwide opposition movement.

In that spirit, the Zapatista rebels reopened negotiations with the government Tuesday. The chief government negotiator said the rebels would not be allowed to promote their cause outside Chiapas during the talks.

In their ambition to expand, the Zapatistas organized a series of colorful conventions in Chiapas in recent months that brought together leftist intellectuals and activists.

Mr. Marcos himself unstrapped his automatic rifle, left the jungle and traveled unarmed to a city to preside over some of the sessions. The meetings kept Zapatista leaders in the media spotlight.

But these communities, in whose name the uprising was fought, by and large are still waiting to see the improvements in their lives that the Zapatistas said they hoped to bring.

As usual, the Zapatistas' strategy is novel. Rebel armies in Central America, like the contras the United States sponsored in Nicaragua or the leftist

guerrillas in El Salvador, waited until the ink was dry on comprehensive peace accords before disarming and going into above-ground politics.

The Zapatistas, who have been in negotiations with the government of President Ernesto Zedillo since October 1995, are not waiting for a formal peace before starting to change into an unarmed movement.

In 1995 they conducted a poll on the Internet to ask Mexicans what they wanted the rebels to do. The majority of 1.5 million people who responded said the Zapatistas should give up armed action and become a grass-roots political organization. So in a declaration they issued from the Chiapas jungle on Jan. 6, the Zapatistas said that was what they would do.

"The government is capable of stalling the talks for years — we have to move forward in spite of them," said Javier Elorriaga, a journalist who was jailed for more than a year for his ties to the Zapatistas and is now in charge of organizing their nonmilitary front as a "landing field" for the guerrillas after peace has been reached.

On paper at least, the front is growing quickly. More than 400 civilian Zapatista committees have been organized, covering virtually all of Mexico. With their knack for communications, the Zapatistas linked together their civilian supporters through an Internet network. They are ready to go to CD-ROM format, making discs that would allow their followers to visit them in their jungle strongholds via their computers, without having to wade through the mud here.

But the description that Subcomandante Marcos and top Indian commanders have provided on the goals of the civilian front is so vague that even Mr. Elorriaga is not sure how to describe what it does. The commanders have mandated only that members of the front cannot run for political office or aspire to government positions, and they must, of course, support the Zapatistas' eclectic socialist cause.

"It's a rainbow," was as concise as Mr. Elorriaga could be about the ideas behind that cause.

The Zapatistas made an alliance with an organization of people indebted to banks and emerged as Mexico's most effective popular movement during the recession of 1995.

The biggest left-of-center political party, the Party of the Democratic Revolution, flirted with the rebels but then pulled back. No Zapatista front group has yet staged a protest action that has gained any attention.

Assad Rejects Israeli Initiative to Revive Talks

New York Times Service

CAIRO — President Hafez Assad of Syria said Wednesday that an Israeli proposal to resume talks between the two countries had not offered "the slightest hope of the possibility of a forthcoming peace."

The blunt comments by the Syrian leader appeared to douse a glimmer of optimism raised by the Israeli initiative, which proposed to tackle differences between the two countries by first resolving their dispute over Lebanon, where Syria deploys 35,000 troops.



Harare, Sheraton Hotel, October 23-24, 1996

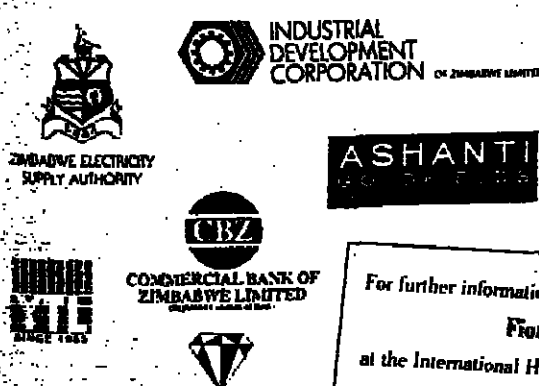
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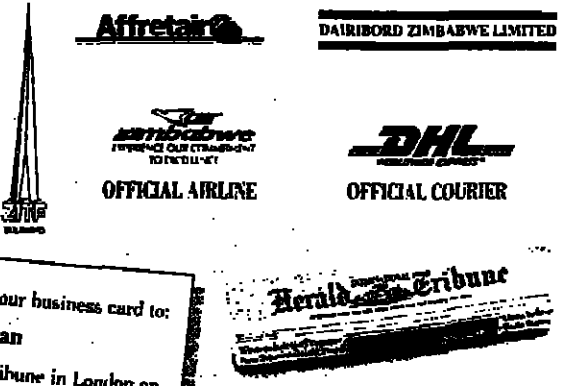
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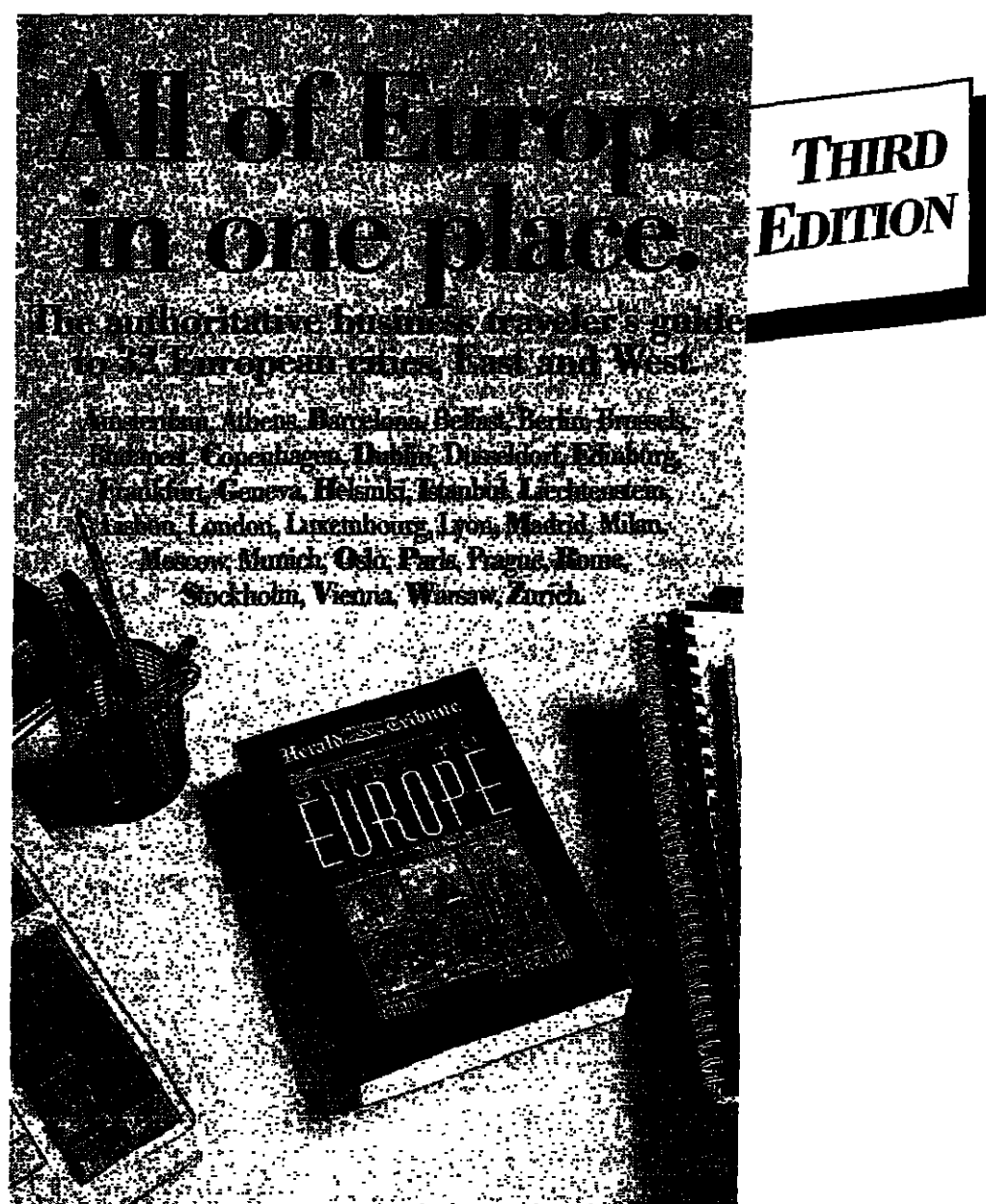


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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Transforming Mexico

One of the sordid and seemingly permanent scandals of the Western Hemisphere has been the long life of Mexico's authoritarian Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI. In power for 67 years, it has used its monopoly position to enrich many of its leaders and members and otherwise to shield massive corruption and criminality and damage the welfare of the country. By electoral mumbo jumbo, it has sought to convey the impression that Mexico is a democracy. Many of Mexico's American friends have accepted the notion, but it is false.

This is the setting against which President Ernesto Zedillo's efforts to modernize the political system must be judged. It may be true that he acted out of a desperate desire to limit the political dangers flowing from an economic crisis. It is also true that the PRI's record altogether denies it the presumption of good faith in any matter affecting its institutional continuity and power. Nonetheless, Mr. Zedillo has done something as monumentally bold as Mikhail Gorbachev did in dismantling the Soviet system. He has produced a rare consensus of all the parties and pushed through the Mexican Congress constitutional amendments that promise to strengthen democracy. The amendments should make it possible for the opposition to

contemplate overthrowing PRI rule. Legislation still will be required to bring the new amendments to life, and here it will be necessary to train a steady eye on the devious and secretive PRI. The changes, however, are by Mexican standards unprecedented.

An electoral commission, not the presidency and the ruling party, henceforth will oversee elections; the supreme court, not the PRI, will adjudicate complaints. Campaign spending reforms are meant to be set in place to put the opposition parties on a level playing field and, not incidentally, to flush out drug money. The country's second-most important post, mayor of Mexico City, will be filled by popular vote, not by PRI appointment. Absentee ballots will be allowed. And so on.

So deep are Mexico's economic and social ills that no party with a pretense to democratic dealing could ask the people to make the inevitable extended sacrifices unless they were making them in support of a government they had selected themselves. The PRI had reached the limits of ruling from above. Its only chance to redeem and renew itself was to open up the system to fair electoral competition. If Mexicans follow through on the new promise, they will have accomplished a truly Olympian national feat.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Dole's Juggling Act

Only a few years ago, people with a taste for pre-convention juggling acts had to watch the Democrats. But these days Bob Dole is in the center ring, flinging first one abortion position and then another into the air. His factional problem is vexing. A tolerant stance would appeal to the suburban moderates without whom he cannot win. But if he moves in that direction, he knows that the pro-life activists will torment him for the next three months.

With memories of the disastrous 1992 Republican Convention still fresh in his mind, the last thing Mr. Dole wants is another right-wing revolt. Fear of the right carried the day on Monday when he abandoned his attempt to fashion a platform with language more acceptable to the millions of Republicans who believe in a woman's right to choose an abortion. These mainstream Republicans are justifiably outraged. So the next phase of Mr. Dole's juggling act may be the selection of a moderate running mate.

Mr. Dole had not asked for much from the religious right. He was willing to give them their plank calling for a constitutional amendment that would outlaw abortion under all circumstances. The plank has been there for 20 years, and Mr. Dole knew he could not do much about it. What he wanted was a "declaration of tolerance," either as part of the abortion plank or somewhere else in the platform. On June 12, with uncharacteristic boldness, he actually suggested specific language recognizing that some Republicans in good conscience favor a right to abortion and that such "diversity of views" is a sign of strength, not weakness.

That language seemed then, and seems now, to be morally sound and politically shrewd. But Ralph Reed of the Christian Coalition, Gary Bauer of the equally pro-life Family Research Council and Pat Buchanan's sister, Bay, knew they would lose face with their constituents if Mr. Dole started looking too much like an independent thinker. So when the party's individual rights subcommittee met in San Diego

on Monday, Mr. Dole caved, offering to downsize abortion by listing it—along with capital punishment, term limits and trade—as one of several issues on which Republicans would be allowed to disagree without being drummed out of the party by Bay Buchanan.

When the pro-lifers said they wanted the word abortion out altogether, poor Mr. Dole retreated once more, agreeing to vapid prose recognizing that "members of our party have deeply held and sometimes differing views" about a word that he dare not mention.

The pro-lifers were ecstatic about the outcome and, as usual, wrong about the politics. After the meeting Mr. Bauer said, "At the heart and soul of the party, it is a pro-life party." That is true only if one measures the party with one of those applause meters from the television talent shows. Mr. Bauer's group is the party's loudest faction. Poor Bob Dole is cursed with the knowledge that he is being measured by the quieter and more numerous independents and mainstream Republicans. Even as he juggles and deals, he is haunted by the suspicion that those voters want a candidate brave enough to tell the Family Research Council that it cannot meddle in a matter that ought to be decided privately between women and their consciences.

A group of moderate governors—Christine Todd Whitman of New Jersey, Pete Wilson of California, William Weld of Massachusetts and George Pataki of New York—hope that the full platform committee will reinstate Mr. Dole's more inclusive language. If it does not, Mr. Weld threatens to carry the fight to the convention floor. Mr. Dole will not like this, but it might produce a plank that would represent the party's most populous rather than its most pestered factions.

Mr. Dole has had quite a week. First he unveiled a tax plan he has never believed in. Now he has topped that with an abortion position he did not want. It is getting to be a thrill a minute in the center ring of Bob Dole's big tent.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

Still Time for Sukarno

[Indonesia's] nearly 200 million people make it the world's fourth most populous country. It is also the largest country in fast-growing Southeast Asia. Indonesia has been crucial to the stability and prosperity of its region. Because it is a vital part of Asia's fragile security balance, turmoil there would produce tremors from China to Australia. Given the scale of foreign investment in the country (\$4.5 billion in 1995 alone), it would shake boardrooms in Tokyo, New York and London.

Such turmoil is not possible. The government of President Suharto, who has ruled Indonesia for 30 years, is responding to unprecedented political challenges with ill-judged repression.

If Indonesia's recent history is anything to go by, things could get a lot

grimmer. Anti-Communist purges and anti-Chinese pogroms that accompanied Mr. Suharto's rise to power in the mid-1960s claimed around 500,000 lives.

If there is a glimmer of hope, it is that both sides can still back away from a bigger conflict. Megawati Sukarnoputri has disavowed violence. Mr. Suharto himself, as is his style, has refrained from public pronouncements about his opponents and has allowed his henchmen to do the dirty work. That gives him the opportunity to distance himself from the repression of recent days and to set about building a political system to channel opposition, rather than crush it.

Even at this late stage, the choice he has made can be reversed. There is still time for Mr. Suharto to bring himself credit, rather than infamy.

—The Economist (London)

A Bigger NATO in a New Security Architecture

By Flora Lewis

PARIS — The debate about extending NATO to the east storms on in public. In fact, the basic decisions have already been made.

Officials at headquarters and in the various capitals have moved on to work out the vast complexity of arrangements and timing needed to shape the reformed alliance and the new "European security architecture."

Moscow, at least at top levels, seems aware of this, although it remains skittish about negotiating the special NATO-Russia agreement that the allies seek in parallel with their own far-reaching plans. There have been some gestures of budging toward accommodation, however.

Russia's military participation in Bosnia has worked to general satisfaction, and now what was seen as a temporary liaison has been made permanent. A Russian general and staff will stay working with NATO's supreme commander at Mons even after troops leave Bosnia, and a NATO mission to the Russian chief of staff will be established in Moscow.

Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov has hinted that Russia might drop objections to some East European coun-

tries joining NATO, if no nuclear weapons or foreign bases are put on their territory, on condition that the Baltic states are permanently excluded.

NATO has already made clear that it is not seeking bases and does not want to deploy more nuclear weapons. All ground-based nuclear arms have already been removed from Europe; conventional tasks are being stressed for dual-capable aircraft. But that does not mean that NATO will give the Russians a formal pledge never to change, in the event of grave crisis or war.

And while nobody is in a hurry to bring in the Baltic states, NATO has firmly proclaimed that no country can be definitively excluded.

This suits the Baltic states while they wait for both Russia and the changed NATO to settle down. "Our need is served so long as we can keep knocking at the door," the Latvian prime minister told me recently. NATO's answer is, "The door is not locked."

So the biggest East-West issue since the Cold War is far from solved, but it is being eroded. The prospects are that

step by step, over a number of years, the problem will fade away and Europe's new security system will evolve under a robust North Atlantic alliance.

The doomsayers predicting NATO's collapse or a stark confrontation are being confounded.

The first decision, probably to admit Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary, will come in December.

Meanwhile, European defense is being transformed. France has not formally accepted reintegration, but the holdup is not much more than agreeing on its assignments in the new command structure. Paris wants to be highly "visible," to muffle and appease what it calls its "arch-enemy-Gaullists."

The importance of the new French defense policy is not widely understood. Attention is focused on the end of conscription and reduced forces, dictated by economic reasons and high-tech needs. But the policy amounts to abandoning territorial defense and all Gaullist pretension of "independent defense."

It means that France no longer foresees any threat on its borders, and is prepared to rely on allies so that it can increase its capacity to project force on the world scene. This is a historic wa-

terbed. It is an even greater commitment to a united Europe than a common currency will be, and it is in partnership with America.

Behind the scenes, Britain and France have embarked on a range of new measures linking their defense planning ever more tightly.

U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry has named the shift in strategy that lies behind all this "preventive defense," aimed at "making war less likely and deterrence unnecessary." That is the prime reason for a new, bigger NATO, and it represents a profound change in security thinking from the Cold War. He gave as one example of its working the way the crisis between Hungary and Romania has been defused over the last five years, largely because both want to join NATO.

The Russians, mired in distress and humiliation, have not come around to recognizing the benefits. They have to be persuaded and given time, but they cannot prevent what is under way. If they try too hard, they will only provoke what they insist must not take place — a new sense of threat and confrontation in Europe.

© Flora Lewis

In the Shadows, Where Foreign and Domestic Politics Meet

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — In Bill Clinton's 1992 campaign against George Bush, Samuel Berger worked at a job that was an oxymoron. A foreign policy adviser to Governor Clinton, he labored to keep foreign policy, and Mr. Clinton's inexperience at it, out of the campaign. Every day in which foreign policy did not take ink or television time away from Mr. Clinton hammering George Bush on the economy was scored as a victory.

Today Mr. Berger, as President Clinton's deputy adviser for national security affairs, is again wrapped in campaign contradictions.

The Clintonites argue that they have constructed a bipartisan foreign policy that Bob Dole has no room or reason to attack. They will, more or less accurately, cite his approval of Clinton actions on Bosnia, Mexico, China and other cases to deflect his assaults.

But Mr. Berger wears a decidedly partisan hat at the same time as he makes the bipartisan argument. As The New York

Times reports, he is part of Mr. Clinton's innermost campaign strategy group, a dozen aides who meet every week or so in the White House to discuss themes, review television commercials and assess scheduling. The group includes Vice President Al Gore and Clinton campaign guru Dick Morris.

The Times noted Mr. Berger's presence but did not suggest that it was in any way improper. A few eyebrows arched upward in the foreign policy establishment, which likes to believe that politics stop at the water's edge. But no one else expressed shock or outrage that registered on any of my meters.

Mr. Bush after all helped blur the dividing lines that are supposed to separate domestic politics and foreign policy by making Jim Baker, his former campaign manager and closest political confidant, secretary of state, before yanking him back to the White House to run the ill-fated 1992 campaign.

So why raise this? In part because the enterprising Times reporting on the strategy group inadvertently highlighted a key White House relationship that has received little attention. Mr. Berger is a central figure in this White House, where politics usually eclipses policy in decision-making.

The National security adviser, Anthony Lake, appears at Mr. Clinton's side at summits and in the important photo-ops. Mr. Lake, Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Mr. Christopher's deputy, Strobe Talbott, are the foreign policy nabobs quoted at length in the press.

But when Mr. Clinton needs a political judgment about how a foreign affairs decision will play at home, or needs to be sure that a policy will be implemented with full attention to the domestic fallout, he often turns to Mr. Berger, the man in the shadows. Mr. Berger has no need to impress Mr. Clinton, a friend of two decades.

They met in 1972 when they worked on the McGovern campaign. Mr. Berger went on to become a successful trade lawyer in Washington and an especially close friend of Mr. Talbott, who was Mr. Clinton's roommate at Oxford.

Mr. Clinton in fact sounded out Mr. Berger about taking the top foreign policy job at the White House after the 1992 election victory. But Mr. Berger, whose previous foreign clients might have made his choice controversial, followed his instinct of avoiding the limelight and urged Mr. Clinton to name Mr. Lake to the job instead. He cited his current boss's wider experience in managing the policy bureaucracy.

When I asked Mr. Berger about this previously unreported episode last week, he characteristically declined to discuss it. He also would not elaborate on his role in this year's campaign strategy group. His wary responses were those of a bridge player constantly fending off a crossruff.

When he does appear before the press, it is invariably on issues with high domestic impact, such as Cuba. He was on the evening news explaining Mr. Clinton's fudge on the Helms-Burton Act on foreign investment in Cuba a few weeks ago. And when the administration dispatched Richard Holbrooke back to Belgrade last month to buy Mr. Clinton some new protection on Bosnia, the single most dangerous foreign policy issue for Mr. Clinton right now, Mr. Berger was deeply involved in charting the mission's successful outcome.

Foreign policy intellectuals tend to be dismissive of the 51-year-old lawyer (whose published work is topped by an essay entitled "Court Awarded Attorneys' Fees: What Is Reasonable") for lacking vision or strategy. But his unassuming approach helps minimize potential conflict with Mr. Lake and Mr. Christopher. He is happy to be seen as a technician—or better, not to be seen at all.

The Washington Post.

The Commercial Stranglehold on America Has to Be Broken

By William Pfaff

PARIS — The picture of the United States presented to the world by the Atlanta Olympics was not the one Americans can be happy with.

I don't refer to the organizational lapses, nor to the flagrant chauvinism which all but ignored the presence of 196 other national delegations. That was merely annoying. Most countries are chauvinist; Nicolas Chauvin, immortalized by it, was a Frenchman.

What most disturbed the world was the submersion of everything by commercialism, all but obliterated sportsmanship and blocking out view of the United States as other than totally materialistic. Thus were foreign prejudices confirmed.

On the other hand, there was a contradiction. This United States was the same one which presents itself as a nation of values and moral rectitude, with lessons to offer in civic virtue — with more churchgoers and religious believers than any other industrial society.

In modern American society, religion and a form of paganism are deeply intertwined, the one offering indirect endorsement to the other, the second justifying itself in terms of the first. The sterile quarrel between liberals and conservatives is trivial by comparison.

The dilemma is in American history. The form of Calvinist belief most influential in American reformed Protestantism from the 17th century forward saw God as electing the saved for His own inscrutable reasons, bestowing benefits on the chosen in this world as in the next. Prosperity and success thus were marks of divine favor. Those abandoned by God were beyond human help.

These ideas remain deeply embedded in American culture, now largely disconnected from religion. However, belief systems that have become disconnected from real belief become dysfunctional.

In the past, American com-

mercialism was tempered by a religious puritanism with powerful traditions of civic service and public obligation.

The evangelical and fundamentalist churches that came to dominate American Protestantism were churches of the poor and abused. The Catholicism of the 19th century immigrations was also a religion of the poor, morally critical of unbridled commerce, big business, the worship of money. It supported trade unions and the corporatist alliance of business, labor, and government that Franklin Roosevelt tried to set up with the National Recovery Administration (struck down by the Supreme Court in 1935).

A code of public obligation was taught in American schools and universities, reinforced during the crisis of the '30s and by the experience many Americans subsequently had of war service and the draft, and by the engagement of American elites in war service and the Cold

War. The country had important things to do, and business concerns were subordinate.

Today, commerce and moneymaking have a stranglehold on American society. Can it be broken, and priority be restored to a concept of public interest and public service?

Other modern industrial and commercial nations, with diverse histories, have kept their standards of public obligation and service, their belief in disinterested national interest, to which economic interests are subordinated.

Much currently is made of saving the cultural identity of recent American immigrants. The real question is how to save the cultural integrity of society itself. Recent immigrants are, like everyone else in the country, cast under the juggernaut wheels of commercial entertainment, which now dominates all that people see and hear in the United States.

What might be done? The grip that money has on politics and politicians must be broken. How? By restricting campaign expenditure and ending paid political advertising, substituting free and equal broadcasting time and press space for candidates.

A public coalition is needed to fight for a public communications sector freed from commercial pressures, so as to break the present grip of demagoguery in politics, news and public affairs debate.

The current economic and business doctrine subordinating the interests of community and workforce to profit and market return must be challenged.

The notion that business is responsible to society must be re-established in business education and corporate ethics. Legislation governing corporations and markets should be altered to impose a changed standard of corporate economic and social conduct, respecting the interests of the majority, not merely of a privileged minority.

Respect and prestige must be restored to government service. One useful innovation would be a graduate-level national academy of public service leading into high-level national civil service appointments, comparable in function to the military academies and military graduate schools.

There already is much pressure for change, but it is incoherent and uncoordinated. National action and national organization are needed. Politicians are needed who will attempt to re-establish civil responsibility and an intelligent public dialogue.

America was deeply changed in this century by the Progressive movement, and again by the New Deal. The wars and the Cold War changed Americans deeply. They can change. Whether they actually will change is the unanswered question.

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Fooling the People All the Time

By Frank Rich

NEW YORK — Arianna Huffington, writes Ed Rollins, "was the most ruthless, unscrupulous and ambitious person I'd met in 30 years in national politics — not to mention that she sometimes seemed truly pathological."

Mrs. Huffington, wife of the defeated California senatorial candidate Michael, is threatening a lawsuit against Mr. Rollins, the former Republican political consultant, whose burn-every-bridge memoir "Bare Knuckles and Back Rooms" was published this Wednesday.

The book, full of tales about his clients and candid assessments of his own whoppers, keeps you laughing. Or does until you remember how close to victory some of his most malevolent candidates came.

For all the spice of Mr. Rollins' inside poop about bold-faced Republican names, his tale is implicitly far harsher in its judgment of a public (and a sometimes compliant press) that falls for zillionaire lunatics and the artificial campaign images that consultants like him invent to sell them.

Ross Perot, "an extremely dangerous demagogue" in Mr. Rollins' view, polled 39 per-

cent during 1992 and drew 19 percent of the vote even after he self-destructed. But "at least Perot believed in something," The Huffingtons "believed in nothing except the pursuit of raw power" yet lost the Senate race by only 160,000 votes out of some 8 million cast.

That near victory occurred, according to Mr. Rollins, despite the fact that Michael Huffington hated meeting constituents, hated being a congressman and was so bereft of convictions that he "gave empty suits a bad name."

Driven by his bottomless checkbook and a wife who was "obsessed with making her husband president some day," he was taken seriously by everyone from pundits like George Will to voters, who would have elected him had he not been caught at the last minute in a nanny scandal.

In the book's tawdry account, with its tales of Arianna Huffington sipping detectives on those who got in her way, to be trusted? Mr. Rollins says he stands by his words.

The major reason for the near success of the Huffington campaign was, in any event, an indisputable matter of public record: nasty television attack ads. A steady barrage backed by an all-time record budget for a Senate campaign (\$29 million) drove the once popular Senator Feinstein's negative rating above 50 percent.

Such is the America we live in, where fame is the main currency, no matter how notoriously earned, especially if backed by gold.

When I asked Mr. Rollins if he was surprised at the resilience of the Huffingtons and Mr. Perot no matter how fraudulent their public poses turn out to be, he said, "You can fool all the people all the time if the advertising budget is big enough." As if to prove his point, Mrs. Huffington this week has written a straight-faced syndicated column decrying negative campaign ads.

There are plenty more Huffingtons out there, salivating to be senators, governors and even president." Mr. Rollins writes. There is nothing in the political arena he leaves behind to allay the fear that one of them will triumph soon.

The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1896: Chinese Visit

LONDON — Li-Hong-Chang yesterday [Aug. 7] received a visit here from Lord Salisbury. His Excellency handed to the interpreter a speech in which he referred at some length to the relations between England and China. England, he said, had been on the whole considerate and fair and had gained China's respect. The greatest desire of China, as well as of England, was peace and commerce, and this was common ground on which the interests of China ran parallel with those of England.

1921: Woman's Right

PARIS — [The Herald says in an Editorial:] Some people seem to fancy that human nature changes with the general trend of world events. This is a profound error. Many proofs might be brought forward. Suffice it to point to a specific example

which for any normally constituted person ought to be conclusive. Woman has gained many new legal rights, most important of which perhaps are those of voting and of holding public office. But she has never relinquished the right to change her mind, and never will.

1946: An End to Aid

GENEVA — Will Clayton, American Assistant Secretary of State, told the fifth session of the council of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in Geneva that the time had come to bring UNRRA activities to a close. Mr. Clayton said that now that the immediate post-war emergency was drawing to an end, "the proper solution of any country that may require assistance is to apply on an individual basis to another country which, in its opinion, is able and prepared to furnish this assistance."

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OPINION/LETTERS

He's Still There to Kick Around: New Book Shows a Softer Nixon

WASHINGTON — Where's Richard Nixon when we need him?

By Richard Cohen

The question is provoked by a new book that presents a Nixon who is so wise, so touchingly unaware of his own hypocrisies and vanities and so spot on about contemporary politics that I found myself yearning, if not for the man himself, then for someone with his qualities. Mr. Nixon never fails to amaze. Even in death, he has once again managed to reinvent himself.

The book responsible for this miraculous exhumation is Monica Crowley's "Nixon Off the Record." Ms. Crowley, a doctoral candidate at Columbia University, was Mr. Nixon's research assistant until his death in 1994. She met frequently with the former president and then dared off to record it all — "the conversation, the mood and personal reflections." Mr. Nixon, she said, was "unaware" that she was keeping a diary.

The Mr. Nixon who emerges in this book is hard to hate. For one thing, he was an endangered political species, a moderate Republican. He thought, for instance, that abortion ought to be no concern of the government's ("That's people's own business") and he ried his party's tendency to bash gays. "We have too much bashing of everyone in this party," he said.

Even more heretical, Mr. Nixon never swooned for Ronald Reagan. He didn't think much of him intellectually and characterized his social policies as harsher than necessary. "All of that go-go-go capitalism seemed to forget about compassion," Mr. Nixon said. Even when it came to winning the Cold War, Mr. Nixon thought Mr. Reagan's role was overestimated. "Communism would have collapsed under its own weight anyway," he told Ms. Crowley.

Not surprisingly, there were moments when my head stopped nodding in agreement and instead jerked back in astonishment. Mr. Nixon called Watergate a "mistake." Had he been elected in 1960 instead of 1968, it would not have happened. But Vietnam was a

different story. "Absolutely, only done the right way," he told Ms. Crowley when she asked him if he would do that all over again.

Just when you are about to think that Ms. Crowley was dealing with a Nixon imitator,

Even in death, he's reinvented himself again.

the old Nixon surfaces. He denied ever watching television, but she caught him at it. Suspecting his phone was tapped, he tells Ms. Crowley he will call her to say he will endorse Rose Perot. "Keep a straight face and a straight voice. If anyone is eavesdropping, it will make it to the press, and we will know." It never made it.

But Mr. Nixon, by his own telling, came by his suspicions honestly. He told Ms. Crowley that Lyndon Johnson had shown him "recording contraptions" that Mr. Johnson said John Kennedy had installed under White House beds. They were voice-activated. Mr. Nixon said Mr. Johnson told him.

Finally, of course, Mr. Nixon had much to say about Bill Clinton. They spoke occasionally on the phone and Mr. Nixon, it seems, found it as hard as others to get a handle on the man. He admired Mr. Clinton's political skills but was appalled at his personal morality — although Mr. Clinton is certainly entitled to wonder about Mr. Nixon's public morality.

What's most interesting, though, is that for a time Mr. Clinton even managed to seduce Mr. Nixon just by doing what Presidents Carter, Reagan and Bush had not — by really paying attention to him. Their first phone conversation, which Mr. Nixon thought would be perfunctory, lasted 40 minutes. "It was the best conversation with a president I've had since I was president," he told Ms. Crowley. In the end, he grew disenchanted, even bitter, with Mr. Clinton.

According to Ms. Crowley, Mr. Nixon talked about Bob Dole in ways that, at the moment, are hard to fathom. He called him "by far the smartest politician — and Republican — in the country today" and "the last great hope for the party." Maybe Mr. Nixon felt a generational kinship with Mr. Dole — both World War II vets, after all — or maybe he did know that Ms. Crowley was intending to publish their conversations. (He wasn't called Tricky Dick for nothing.) Whatever the case, Mr. Dole has to live up to some incredible billing.

In the end, though, what jumps out at you in this book is the amount of time Mr. Nixon spent thinking about — and trying to affect — public policy. He was a hard, disciplined worker, an unforgivably flawed man but a serious thinker and, intellectually, a yardstick by which the current crop of politicians can be measured. By the book's last page, they seem pretty indeed.

The Washington Post.

A Modest Proposal to Rescind Childhood

By Ellen Goodman

BOSTON — Now that we have repealed welfare, I have a modest proposal. Let's go all the way and rescind childhood.

Childhood has become far too burdensome for the American public to bear. It isn't good for the country. It isn't even good for children who are captured in an unwholesome and prolonged state of dependency.

The whole idea of childhood, it should be remembered, is nothing but an anachronistic leftover from the original liberals. Before the so-called Enlightenment, before Rousseau, before the left-wing conspiracy of 18th-century do-gooders, the young were dressed, worked and looked upon as short adults.

Children existed, but they didn't have their own "place" to be educated and nurtured until they reached maturity. Adolescence, for that matter, wasn't invented until the early 20th century. Not was the concept of juvenile as in delinquency, nor the notion of teenage as in pregnancy.

But now we are stuck with this useless thing called childhood, a drain on the private and public exchequers. Not to mention a merciless drag on private and public conscience.

Consider what happened when Congress passed and the president

approved the "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996" (aka welfare reform). The only teeny-weensy reservations about cutting \$56 billion from the

MEANWHILE

poorest Americans, ending the federal guarantee of assistance to poor families and launching them into the unknown had to do with children.

There are still a handful of people troubled by the fact that America has the highest child poverty rates of any industrialized country and that when this "reform" clicks in, a million more children are expected to become poor.

Why not eliminate all this messy, counterproductive guilt? Why not apply the same principles of "personal responsibility" and "work opportunity" to our youngest citizens?

I am not alone in my plan, though perhaps I am the first to put it quite so baldly. But we are already erasing the line between childhood and adulthood whenever we want to.

At the Olympics, we had 14-year-

old gymnasts on the "Women's Team." In the states, we now have plans to try 13-year-old lawbreakers as adults. In Congress they are considering doing away with juvenile jails and "mainstreaming" kids with older criminals. Across the world, the "new economy" is using kids as a way to meet global competition.

Most Americans already recognize that childhood is simply not cost-effective. If children were once economic assets, they are now deficits, unlikely to ever pay back our investments. So only a third of our households have anyone under 18 in them today. Communities that once felt a collective responsibility for the next generation now often regard children as private property to be exclusively maintained by their owners.

If we eliminated the entire notion of childhood we wouldn't have to worry about children having children. Or about child care. Or after-school care. Or school. Child labor would become another "work opportunity."

Of course, we could retain childhood as a luxury item for those who could afford it. Sort of like an Ivy League college. The rest, the poor

especially, will have to do without childhood the way they do without so much else.

It takes a village to raise a child, as the former Hillary Clinton — somebody file a missing person report on her — once wrote. But the village has now given instructions to the government: Everyone is on her own.

The last great evil in America today is dependency. The last remaining "culture of dependency" is, of course, childhood. Is it any wonder that it has to go?

If my modest proposal seems too harsh, may I remind you of the one Jonathan Swift offered in 1729: "A Modest Proposal for Preventing the Children of Poor People in Ireland from Being a Burden to Their Parents or Country and for Making Them Beneficial to the Public."

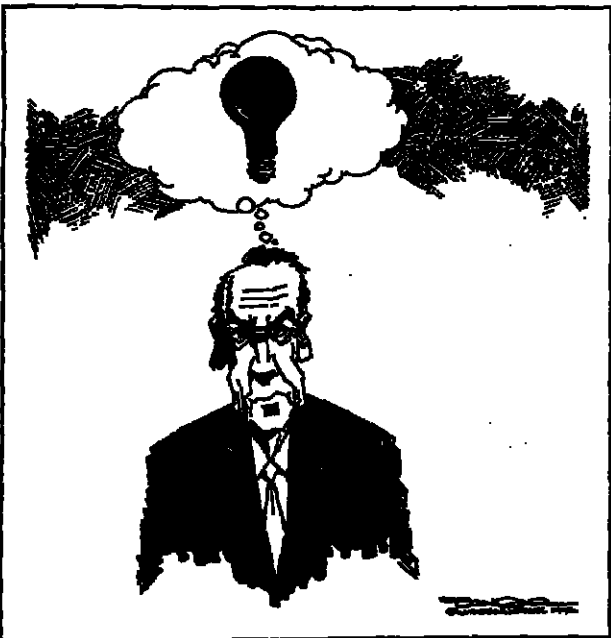
Swift proposed, modestly and satirically, that the Irish young be sold and eaten. They would be as well off as growing up in poverty under British policy.

I would never suggest such a thing. But come to think of it, this reckless "reform" is also cutting food stamps by about a fifth. Maybe Swift was just ahead of his time.

The Boston Globe.

Politics

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sharing Ulster

Regarding "For Ulster, Shared Rule Might Be the Only Way" (Opinion, July 24) by William Pfaff:

Mr. Pfaff's proposal for shared rule over Northern Ireland is clearly attractive in light of recent events. But it should be noted that some areas of coexistence already exist.

People born in Northern Ireland can hold an Irish passport (thanks to Articles 2 and 3 of the Irish Constitution), or they can carry both Irish and British passports if they wish. Students can follow either the British or Irish school systems and, thanks to the European Union, can attend universities in both parts of Ireland and in Britain.

NIGEL DINGWALL,
Hong Kong.

Agriculture Funds

Regarding "Unfunded Science Won't Solve the Food Problem" (Opinion, Aug. 2) by Daniel S. Greenberg:

Mr. Greenberg very correctly highlights the importance of sufficient and competitive funding for agricultural research in the United States. However, he fails to mention that the American situation mirrors an even more disturbing global trend.

Underfunded, inappropriate, ineffective and inefficient agricultural research is a major contributor to the food insecurity that many developing and poor countries face

today. It is most surprising that governments and aid donors, including international organizations, continue to reduce the share of their budgets destined to support agriculture.

It was a massive famine in the late 1950s and 1960s in Asia that led to a spurt of investment in agricultural research. A neglected and decaying global agricultural research system cannot do much to prevent a repeat of this drama.


In the long term, global food security — including that of the United States — can be achieved only through political and social recognition of the importance of the agricultural and rural sectors.

By recognition, I mean the provision of appropriate funds and institutional structures at the national, regional and global levels. That is the most important way that the necessary scientific breakthroughs will be achieved.

The results of agricultural science benefit not just farmers. All consumers — and future generations — depend on the results of research to provide food and a healthy natural environment. There are more than enough reasons to fund the agricultural sciences.

C. BONTE-FRIEDHEIM,
The Hague.

The writer is director general of the International Service for National Agricultural Research.



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INTERNATIONAL

China Drops Objections to Worldwide Ban on Nuclear Tests

By R. Jeffrey Smith
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The United States and China reached an agreement Wednesday that removes Beijing's objections to draft language for a comprehensive, worldwide ban on nuclear testing, leaving only the objections of India as a potential hindrance to reaching a global accord this year.

The progress occurred when officials from the two countries, concluding a week and a half of bilateral talks in Geneva, agreed for the first time on procedures for inspecting suspected treaty violations. A U.S.-Chinese dispute over how readily such inspections could occur had threatened to derail the accord.

Negotiators from each of the other three declared nuclear powers — Britain, Russia and France — also privately signaled in Geneva that they

would accept the procedures agreed to by the U.S. and Chinese negotiators, officials at the talks said.

Under the compromise, international inspections at the site of suspected violations will go forward if 30 of the 51 countries in the treaty's executive council agree, rather than by the simple majority vote that Washington initially sought or the two-thirds vote China had favored.

The agreement clears the way for a joint declaration by all five powers that they are prepared to accept a common treaty text forever banning all nuclear test explosions in the air, under or in the sea, or in space.

Such an announcement, which U.S. officials said could occur as early as Friday in Geneva, would mark the first full accord on a test ban among the five principal countries with nuclear arsenals since the idea was first discussed as a major arms control measure 40 years ago.

U.S. officials predicted that such an announcement would place substantial political pressure on some prominent holdouts to accept the treaty text within a few days after the announcement.

A senior U.S. official, speaking on condition he not be named, hailed the new agreement as "the piece we needed" to solidify the five declared nuclear powers behind the text and present a united front that "makes the outlying nations quite isolated."

"It will doubtless have an effect on Pakistan and probably on Iran," the official said. Both of those countries have been reluctant to accept the text.

The officials predicted that India, an undeclared nuclear power that has declared its opposition to the draft treaty, will exercise its veto and block the transfer of the treaty from the United Nations Conference on Disarmament in Geneva to the meeting of the UN General Assembly in New York next month.

But several officials said the United States and China had also reached an agreement in Geneva that they are prepared to join the remaining three nuclear powers and many other countries in presenting the text of the treaty to the New York meeting anyway, using a legal stratagem that Washington and its allies have devised in the last week to sidestep an Indian veto.

The senior American official said that Washington believed there was no legal barrier to a group of countries presenting the text of the treaty to the United Nations meeting without a specific endorsement by the Conference on Disarmament.

The conference has managed the negotiations and operates by consensus.

It is only a matter of days "before we know for sure whether this is necessary" because of India's objections in Geneva, the official said.

He added that China's backing for

the move, should it become necessary, was "not in doubt" as a result of Washington's decision to embrace the new inspection formula.

Washington first suggested the compromise on inspection procedures this week, after intense discussions within the Clinton administration over whether requiring anything more than a majority vote of the 51-nation executive council established by the accord would pose too great an obstacle to on-site inspections.

The U.S. decision was presented to China as part of a package that included China's agreement to move the treaty text to New York and to lobby its ally Pakistan to accept the accord, one official said.

Ambassador Sha Zukang, who has represented China at the Geneva talks, informed diplomats from the other declared nuclear powers of Beijing's agreement.

PRETORIA:
What Global Role?

Continued from Page 1

cachet because of its successful struggle against apartheid, which ended with the first democratic elections more than two years ago, and the moral weight of Mr. Mandela.

But while his stature no doubt has opened doors and brought South Africa back into the global community, it can be no substitute for a coherent policy framework, analysts say. Diplomats use words like "romantic" and "undisciplined" to describe South Africa's foreign policy.

"The greatest challenge is going to be translating a very impressive foreign profile into a foreign policy of substance," said Greg Mills, director of the South African Institute for International Affairs.

Several dynamics are at work among South African policymakers, some of them contradictory. President Mandela wants to reward countries that were friends of the liberation struggle, such as Cuba and Libya. In a pattern that some find alarming, relations with other countries, such as Taiwan and Nigeria, may be influenced by donations they gave Mr. Mandela's party during the campaign for the first democratic elections in 1994.

At the same time, South Africa needs to deepen relations with the countries from which it can receive investment, such as Germany, Britain and the United States, its three largest trading partners.

In a sense, South Africa is trying to have as much as it can get in terms of global goodwill. "They're getting out there like a kid in a candy shop," a non-African diplomat said.

In South African parlance, this is called "universality," which basically means trying "to maintain cordial relations with all countries," said Pieter Swanepoel, spokesman for Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo. Principles such as respect for human rights and advocacy of reconciliation and negotiation are part of the policy framework.

But observers call the friend-to-all approach a naive defiance of a diplomatic dictum: Countries do not have permanent friends; they have permanent interests.

South Africa still is trying to determine just where its interests lie as the nation and its leadership transform themselves from apartheid state to multiracial democracy, from socialist liberation movement to capitalistic governing party bedeviled by constituencies to the left, from enemy of Africa to what some call Africa's hope.

At the same time, there is fear — particularly in southern Africa — of South Africa's dominance and its aggressive business forays on the continent. Its neighbors are slowly integrating their economies, but because South Africa's gross domestic product is nearly six times larger than all of its neighbors' combined, the partnership is inevitably unequal.

South Africa's relations with Mozambique officially are quite good, in large part because Mozambique's economy was devastated by 17 years of war and the country can use all the help it can get.

Things are not so sanguine, however, in the case of Zimbabwe. A trade war over tariffs and the flood of South African textiles that has depressed Zimbabwe's industry narrowly was averted recently. The region also is concerned that a trade agreement between South Africa and the European Union would mean that South Africa's markets would open to Europe before they opened to neighbors.

PLATFORM: Moderates to Wage Fight

Continued from Page 1

on different subjects but does not mention abortion specifically as one of those subjects. It removes references to differences on issues of "personal conscience" that the Dole campaign inserted last month.

It also includes a new sentence that suggests that those who perform abortions will be prosecuted.

The proposed platform still calls for a constitutional amendment against abortion and opposes the use of any federal money for abortions.

Mr. Weld said Tuesday that he, Mr. Wilson, Governor Christine Whitman of New Jersey and Senator Olympia Snowe of Maine had succeeded in gaining pledges of support from leaders of eight state delegations, or two more than the six needed to bring a matter to the convention floor.

He also said that he had been in contact with senior Dole aides throughout the day and that they had given him their blessing in the hope that the matter could be resolved before the convention opens.

Mr. Weld, Mr. Wilson and Ms. Snowe released a statement saying:

"We are deeply disappointed and troubled by this flawed decision, which flies in the face of Republican opinion across the country. We believe that abortion should be treated as a matter of conscience rather than an opportunity for government intrusion into a deeply personal decision."

Mrs. Whitman said Mr. Dole's yielding to the anti-abortion forces jeopardized his chances of winning the November election. She said she believed that many delegates were more concerned with keeping the tolerance language out

of the platform than they were with getting Mr. Dole elected.

But as the moderates began mobilizing, the conservatives demonstrated that they were geared for battle throughout the convention.

Ralph Reed, executive director of the Christian Coalition, said his forces had lined up 102 people to work as whips on the convention floor in the event of a fight.

He said they had bought a computer system to allow the whips to communicate with each other and had set up a "war room" in a nearby hotel.

The renewed dispute over abortion erupted as Mr. Dole was reaping relatively favorable publicity for the economic plan he announced Monday and as he prepared to make public his vice presidential running mate later this week.

After moving toward the moderates, Mr. Dole seceded, then reversed himself and capitulated last month to anti-abortion forces.

But his nearly complete capitulation was not complete enough, leaving him without the votes on Monday to save off their insistence that he rid the platform of all language endorsing tolerance.

■ Advice From Gingrich

The House speaker, Newt Gingrich, urged Republicans searching for an abortion compromise in their platform to "get it out of your system" and move on to unifying themes for the election. The Associated Press reported Wednesday.

Mr. Gingrich gave the party's platform committee a gentle nudge as backroom efforts were continued to satisfy moderates.

"Get it out of your system — enjoy it," Mr. Gingrich said of the abortion debate. "And then let's get on with it."



ABORTION RIFT — Governor Christine Whitman, Republican of New Jersey, criticizing delegates to her party's convention who rejected language that would have stressed the tolerance of differing viewpoints.

PARTY: Senate Nominees Who Oppose Abortion Rights Reach Victory in the Primaries

Continued from Page 1

played a major role, principally in motivating the conservative activists to turn out," he said.

But voters in the general election care less about abortion than Republican primary voters, and the problem now for Mr. Miller and other conservative Republicans is to gain the support of moderates, said a University of Georgia political scientist, Charles Bullock.

"Based on what happened in 1994, the electorate is evenly divided between Republicans and Democrats," he said. "So Republican candidates who can peel away Democratic voters have a better shot."

Representative Sam Brownback, an outspoken leader of the 1995 freshman House class, won 55 percent of the vote in the Kansas primary to defeat Senator Sheila Frahm. She was appointed to replace Mr. Dole when he quit the Senate in June to campaign full-time for the presidency.

In Michigan and Georgia, virtually no ideological differences arose between the candidates — except over abortion.

A former Detroit radio talk show host, Ronna Romney, beat a businessman, Jim Nicholson, 52 percent to 48 percent, while an Atlanta businessman, Guy Millner, outpolled Johnny Isakson, 53 percent to 47 percent, to win in a runoff vote in Georgia.

Ms. Romney, who is divorced from a son of George Romney, a former governor, lost the Senate primary two years ago. This year, she relied on the support of anti-abortion activists, including Right to Life of Michigan, to negate the \$1.3 million in personal funds that Mr. Nicholson pumped into his campaign.

"It was grass roots over greenbacks," said the Romney campaign manager, Paul Welday.

Mr. Brownback, Ms. Romney and Mr. Millner oppose abortion; Ms. Frahm, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Isakson support abortion rights.

Ms. Romney now faces an uphill fight in November against the Democratic incumbent, Carl Levin.

In Georgia, the Democratic candidate is Max Cleland, the secretary of state and a former head of the Veterans Administration in Washington. He was un-

opposed in last month's primary.

Immediately after locking up the nomination, Mr. Miller sought to shift the focus of the campaign from abortion to experience, characterizing the general election as a contest between "a professional bureaucrat and a professional businessman."

In other Kansas races, Representative Pat Roberts crushed three opponents to win the Republican nomination in the election to fill the seat of a retiring senator, Nancy Kassebaum, and Jim Kyn beat two rivals to win the Republican nomination in the race for the Brownback seat. Both winners oppose abortion.

CUNARD: New Hand at the Line's Helm Orders Full Cruising Speed Ahead, Upmarket

Continued from Page 1

esting ports of call and careful trading on the Cunard name and mystique — much as he traded on luxury and mystique to revive Rolls-Royce.

"When I came here in September," Mr. Ward said, "the only guy who went to bed worrying about the bottom line was me. Cunard was almost like a welfare state at sea."

While some current and former employees regard that as something of an exaggeration, they do concede that Cunard in the pre-Ward era was rife with waste, indecision and feuds determined to

keep all other feuds in the dark.

Cunard had a \$25 million operating loss last year after posting modest profits in the two previous years, but sales have fallen each year since 1992 — from some \$520 million to about \$440 million in 1995.

The fallout from the QE2's fiasco in 1994 hurt that ship's bookings and cost Cunard \$13 million to settle claims by angry passengers. The company's annual report acknowledged that all its ships "failed to meet either target occupancy levels or target figures for daily rates per berth sold."

In the past, a part-time employee said, many bills and taxes sent to the cruise line would simply disappear.

Travel agents said many of Cunard's telephone reservation agents had been naughty as well as incompetent.

What is more, a profusion of Cunard brands — four in all — diluted the name and made quality control difficult. One brand was for European river boats that Cunard did not own but with which it had a marketing agreement. Another, Royal Viking Sea Goddess by Cunard, was for five ships that it did own.

Late last year, the marketing agreement was severed and the only brand left intact was Cunard. Besides the QE2, the Countess and the Dynasty, the fleet now consists of the Royal Viking Sun, the Sea Goddess I and Sea Goddess II and the Vistafjord.

But that change did not guarantee smooth sailing. Last fall, Mr. Ward was in his job only a month when the QE2 was hit head-on by a 90-foot wave southwest of Newfoundland. A fire in the engine room of the Sagafjord last March stranded 500 passengers in the South China Sea and resulted in the ship's removal from the fleet.

Less than a month later, the Royal Viking Sun struck a reef in the Red Sea, ending a round-the-world cruise for more than 500 passengers. Despite all the misfortune, Mr. Ward is determined that Cunard will turn a profit by 1998. He also played down talk about a possible sale.

The potential problem he faces is that his strategy for Cunard goes against how others in the industry see business developing. The luxury end represents only 14 percent of the market, according to the Cruise Lines International Association. The prevailing view is that luxury passengers tend to be older people whose numbers are dwindling because of age and health. A total of 4.3 million passengers sailed last year, slightly fewer than in the previous two years.

Moreover, Cunard has no new ships on its horizon while other major lines are adding a total of two dozen new ships in the next few years. Many have room for

2,000 to 3,000 passengers, and all are cheaper to operate than older ships.

A recent report by Salomon Brothers Inc. points out that the changing demographics of the North American population, which accounts for more than 80 percent of the cruise market, favor the big new ships.

"Potential new passengers, particularly the baby boomer category," the report said, "may only be drawn to cruise travel by the lure of an entertainment experience equivalent to their previous vacation experiences in Las Vegas and Orlando."

Mr. Ward is not convinced. Affluent baby boomers, he said, represent a growth market for Cunard. Unlike the megaships, many of which fill berths through rampant discounting, "We will sail with empty berths rather than practically give them away in the illusory hope of making lots of money from gambling and other on-board activities," he said.

To reverse what he described as "a few years of benign neglect," Mr. Ward has installed a management structure, similar to that employed at Rolls-Royce, which relies on consensus among semi-autonomous business units. Each ship is run as a separate business with its own chief executive and management team.

But the major change is that purchasing and logistics are done from the home office, rather than by each ship.

MARS: Clinton Vows Strong Effort to Seek Evidence of Life

Continued from Page 1

found perspective on our place in the universe." The only way to confirm the discovery, according to Mr. Sagan and others, is to go to Mars.

The last big U.S. mission to Mars suffered a catastrophic failure in 1993 as it arrived at its destination.

Scientists long ago made Mars the focus of inquiry after they learned it once had resembled more closely their own world than any other known cosmic object. As Mr. Sagan put it, some 3 to 4 billion years ago, Mars "was wetter, there were rivers, there were lakes and possibly even oceans." He added, "That's the environment that you'd expect life to arise in on Mars."

The first landings there by Viking spacecraft in the 1970s revealed no signs of life, but scientists have speculated increasingly in recent years that microbes might survive beneath the Martian surface.

■ Sample From Mars Is Needed

Malcolm W. Browne of The New York Times reported from New York:

Experts in planetary science and the chemistry of life said Wednesday that although NASA's evidence of past life on Mars was suggestive and exciting, it would remain speculative until samples collected directly from Martian rock could be examined and analyzed.

"I think that for once, the space agency is not overdoing its enthusiasm," said Dr. Thomas J. Ahrens, a planetary scientist at the California In-

stitute of Technology and a member of the National Academy of Sciences. "The analysis of this meteorite is extremely interesting and important."

"But the conclusions of the NASA group are hypothetical, because we don't yet have a known sample from Mars, only meteorite samples that we believe came from Mars. In the case of the Moon, we can compare meteorites collected on Earth with Moon rocks brought back by Apollo missions, and because of that, we now know without doubt that certain meteorites came from the Moon. But the interpretation of this Allan Hills meteorite, in a way, is a house of cards that could collapse if any of the inferences are wrong."

Dr. Ahrens added, "This speaks strongly for the need to send a mission to Mars to get samples."

Scientists on the NASA team acknowledged that many of their inferences were controversial, but that science thrived on disagreement and debate to arrive at the truth.

Dr. Paul H. Benoit, a specialist in cosmological chemistry at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, called NASA's tentative finding of life on Mars "very speculative."

Dr. Benoit and his associates have analyzed many meteorites, including carbonaceous chondrites — stony meteorites that contain carbon compounds.

He said: "We find the same polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons NASA detected in this meteorite — as well as many other organic compounds — in meteorites that we know did not come

from other planets and which were formed too early in the history of the solar system for life to have come into existence."

Dr. Ahrens's experiments with high-velocity gas guns demonstrated conditions under which chunks of planets could be knocked loose by asteroid impacts and propelled through space to reach other planets. His experiments showed not only that Martian rock could be blasted all the way to earth but that very large asteroid impacts on earth could send terrestrial rock to Mars.

A potential problem in the analysis of samples like the meteorite ALH 84001, which led to the latest discovery, is contamination.

It was found in Allan Hills, one of the vast expanses of wind-polished blue ice covering parts of the Antarctic continent. Such places are among the best places in the world to look for meteorites.

Scientists are as careful as possible to avoid contaminating such treasures from interplanetary space, but to reach the ice fields, they travel by diesel-powered aircraft and tracked vehicles, which emit polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, among other things. These are potential pollutants that might masquerade as residues of living organisms.

The NASA group found, however, that the concentration of these substances was sparse along the meteorite surface but much higher in the rock's interior, suggesting that the compounds were not the result of terrestrial pollution.

ACCORD: Serb and Croat Leaders Agree to Establish Relations

Continued from Page 1

to pressure the Bosnian Croats to honor the June city council elections.

An agreement finally was reached Tuesday. The rift in Mostar threatened Bosnia's national elections on Sept. 14 and illustrated the deep distrust remaining between Muslims and Croats.

The two communities were allies against Serbs during most of the Bosnian war, but also fought each other before forming a federation in 1994 under U.S. pressure. Nowhere was the fighting more intense than in Mostar.

The European Union has administered Mostar since 1994 in an effort to reunite the city. It has threatened to pull out if a deal is not reached.

The U.S. brokers of Bosnia's peace have long hoped for full normalization of relations between Serbia and Croatia.

The State Department said Wednesday that Secretary of State Warren Christopher would travel to Brussels, Geneva and Sarajevo next week to discuss the Bosnian peace process, particularly arrangements for the Sept. 14 elections.

Mr. Christopher will visit Sarajevo on Thursday to look at postwar reconstruction projects and convey to the Bosnian people "the importance of these elections, the opportunity that the people of the country have in the September 14 election to chart a new course for themselves," said Nicholas Burns, the State Department spokesman.

Political analysts in Belgrade said Mr. Milosevic was anxious to normalize relations with Croatia before he turned his attention to other problems at home.

A Croatian government official, who declined to be named, said Tuesday that

any normalization agreement would require Yugoslavia, comprising Serbia and Montenegro, to recognize Croatia in its international borders.

"Serbia's recognition is important for Croatia as a signal to the Serb population in Eastern Slavonia that they are a part of Croatia," the official said.

A transitional UN administration runs Eastern Slavonia, the last Serbian-held rebel enclave in Croatia, and is due to hand over control to Zagreb.

Croatia declared independence from the former Yugoslavia in 1991, and later fought a bitter war against its Serbian minority, who were aided by Serbia.

The meeting Wednesday came a few days after the first anniversary of the Croatian Army's attack on the Serbian-held enclave of Krajina, which forced some 200,000 Serbian refugees to flee the region. (AFP, AP, Reuters)

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HEALTH/SCIENCE

Making Computers Easier on the Eyes

By Jane E. Brody
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In days gone by, children were often warned that reading in poor light or in awkward positions would "ruin" their eyes. Fortunately, problems rarely ensued. Not so among today's computer users; many experience preventable eye or vision problems.

With images on a computer screen fast supplanting the printed word, complaints about vision-related problems like eyestrain, blurry vision, headaches and neck aches are multiplying rapidly. Millions of people who work or play on video display terminals are suffering needlessly, experts say.

Although vision and eye problems have been overshadowed by carpal tunnel syndrome as a debilitating hazard of prolonged computer use, they are actually more common and should not be ignored. Virtually all can be corrected — and avoided — with proper adjustments in the work environment and the user's position in relation to the screen.

Although there is no evidence of permanent visual damage from the prolonged use of VDTs, even temporary impairments can be troublesome. The problems can occasionally be dangerous; for example, if computer use at work impairs distance vision, driving home could be hazardous.

First, the good news. Repeated tests have shown that video display terminals do not emit hazardous radiation, so even daily use for decades should not cause cataracts or retinal damage. Nor is there evidence that computer use causes permanent myopia, or nearsightedness, or speeds development of myopia any more than reading books might.

However, several surveys of people who work at video display terminals indicate that up to 75 percent experience one or more reversible vision or eye problems. The American Optometric Association has coined a name for the complaints: computer vision syndrome. Symptoms may include the following:

- Temporary myopia, the inability to focus clearly on distant objects for a few minutes to a few hours after using the computer.

- Eyestrain or eye fatigue, a tired, aching heaviness of the eyelids or forehead.

- Blurred vision for near or far objects, and sometimes double vision or afterimages.

- Dry, irritated or watery eyes.
- Increased sensitivity to light.
- Headaches, neck aches, backaches and muscle spasms from holding the body in awkward positions to maintain a desirable angle between eyes and screen.

Why should computer use cause such problems when reading a book or papers for hours on end rarely does? According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology and optometrists who study computer-related problems, factors that apply especially to computer use include: poor position in relation to the computer; lighting that produces glare or reflections; failure to blink often enough; use of corrective lenses that are inappropriate for the user's position and distance from the screen; and minor visual defects that might go unnoticed if not exaggerated by computer use.

FOR example, Dr. Kent M. Daum, an optometrist at the University of Alabama School of Optometry in Birmingham, showed that minor refractive errors, astigmatism or imbalances between the eyes can cause discomfort after just half an hour at the computer. He showed that correcting such problems with properly fitted lenses could increase comfort.

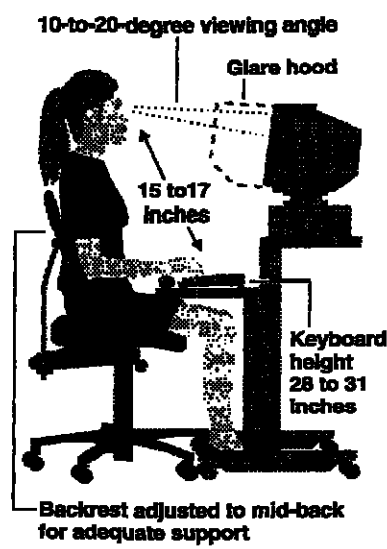
With regard to dry, irritated eyes, Dr. James Sheedy, a clinical professor of optometry at the University of California at Berkeley, cited a Japanese study of how often people blink.

When people converse, they blink, on average, 22 times a minute; when they read, they blink 10 times a minute; and when they use a VDT, that drops to seven times a minute. In addition, Dr. Sheedy said, people generally look down when they read but stare straight ahead at a screen, so eyes are open wider and are subject to more evaporation.

As for aching necks and backs, Dr. Sheedy explained that people naturally try to look down at a computer screen at an angle of 10 to 20 degrees. If the screen is at or above eye level, the

Seeing Eye to Eye With Your Screen

Position the computer so you can look down at the screen at the natural angle of 10 to 20 degrees. Corrective lenses should be adjusted for a distance of 20 to 24 inches. Screens or hoods can help reduce glare.



Source: "Computing," Dr. John J. Kelle (Kelle Communications)
The New York Times

tendency is to tilt the head back to achieve the desired viewing angle, and that can cause stiff necks and backaches.

People who wear bifocals or progressive lenses are forced to tilt their heads back to see the screen at all. Even then, the image is not as clear as it could be because the prescription for a reading lens is adjusted for an eye-to-page distance of 16 inches (40 centimeters) at an angle of 25 degrees, but computer screens are usually 20 to 24 inches away at an angle of 10 to 15 degrees.

Anyone who spends a significant amount of time at a computer terminal would be wise to start with a thorough eye examination. Even minor visual defects should be corrected with lenses prescribed especially for the computer.

Periodic rest breaks are crucial. Every 15 minutes or so, look up and focus on distant objects for about 2 minutes. And do some stretching exercises to relieve tension in your neck and back.

Snail Toxins Block Pain

By Gina Kolata
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Hiding in coral reefs in the Philippines, venomous cone snails have lured collectors with their brilliant and intricately patterned shells. The snails, just inches in length, have intrigued biologists because they can catch fish as large as they are. And increasingly they are attracting neurobiologists because it turns out that the snails make thousands of toxins that lock onto crucial molecules of mammalian nervous systems with pinpoint precision.

The cone snail toxins can knock out particular molecules needed for the transmission of certain nerve impulses while leaving similar molecules alone. In addition to their use in studies of how the nervous system works, they may lead to therapeutic drugs that avoid the undesirable side effects that occur when a substance used to block one molecule inadvertently blocks similar molecules.

The array of the toxins' effects is like nothing ever seen before. Inject one toxin into the brains of rats and they fall asleep. Inject another and they start to scratch themselves; another and they swing their heads; yet another and they go into convulsions.

Now the first of these toxins is being tested clinically at 30 medical centers across the United States by the Neuroex Corp. of Menlo Park, California. The toxin, which blocks the transmission of pain impulses up the spinal cord to the brain, is the focus of a study that will enroll 300 patients with AIDS or cancer who have intractable pain. Dr. Paul Goddard, president and chief executive officer of Neuroex, said he was extremely encouraged by the results so far.

Dr. Ponzy Lu, a biochemist at the University of Pennsylvania who is interested in the structure of small molecules, said that with most of the toxins yet to be characterized, "I think there will be a lot more coming out of this."

THE slowly unraveling discovery of the cone snail toxins began with a molecular biologist's desire to do science in his native Philippines.

The scientist, Dr. Baldomero M. Olivera, now at the University of Utah, said he had no idea when he turned to the snails how fascinating they would be. He had received a Ph.D. at the California Institute of Technology and then done postdoctoral work at Stanford University, where he was a discoverer of ligase, an enzyme that is crucial for recombinant DNA experiments. Finishing his postdoctoral work in 1969, he decided to go back to the Philippines to study molecular biology.

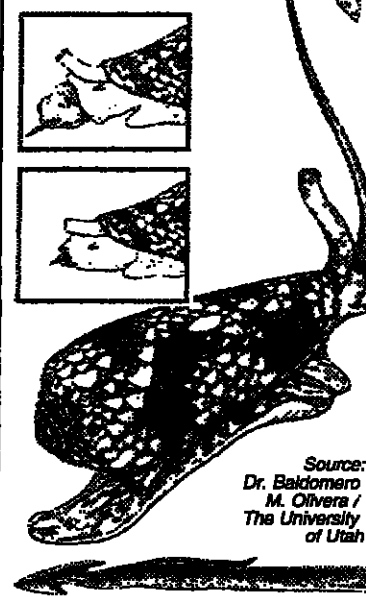
"I ended up at a laboratory at the University of the Philippines that had no equipment," Dr. Olivera said. "I figured it would make a nice kind of short-term project to purify out what made these snails so deadly."

Dr. Olivera had collected shells as a child and knew about the venomous marine snails in the waters near his home. The highly treasured shells of cone snails have attracted collectors for years — and have killed hapless shell hunters with their poisons.

There are about 500 species of cone snails in the world's tropical ocean waters,

Deadly Harpoonist

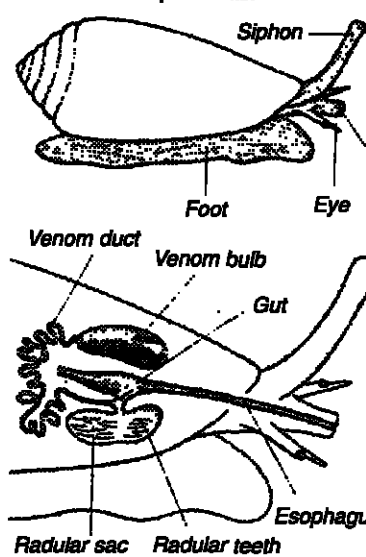
Each species of cone snail has its own collection of amazingly specific toxins. One is used by *Conus purpurascens* to paralyze an unwary fish that has bitten a line that looks like food. The line comes with a harpoon attached, and the fish is first rendered stiff, then reeled into the snail's maw.



Source: Dr. Baldomero M. Olivera / The University of Utah

A Pump for the Snail's Poisons

The venom is made in the venom duct, a long tube, and is delivered by the harpoon-like radular tooth, shown in extreme close-up, above. It is pumped from the duct by the muscular venom bulb. Up to 50 such teeth are stored in the radular sac; when needed, one tooth is moved into the proboscis.



The New York Times

and about 70 of them hunt fish. Some bury themselves in the sand, waiting for a fish to come by. When a lurking snail senses a fish, it throws out a slender tube from its mouth and wiggles it. The tube can be transparent or it can be colored a brilliant red, a soft amber or a velvety purple, depending on the species of snail. But it

looks, Dr. Olivera said, for all the world like a fishing line.

When a fish swallows the line, a poisonous barb comes jutting out, paralyzing the fish with deadly toxins. The snail reels in the fish and swallows it whole. After about an hour and a half, it spits out the bones, the scales and the barb it used to kill the fish.

Other cone snails catch sleeping fish with the biological equivalent of a fisherman's net. They open their mouths wide, so the fish drift in. Then they jab the fish with a poisonous barb to kill them.

"We started out basically looking at things that cause paralysis of fish," Dr. Olivera said. "The first surprise was that there were really a lot of things in venom that cause paralysis. If you look at sea snakes, which also eat fish, almost all of their paralytic activity is in one component of their venom."

ONE of the snail toxins is like the toxin that cobras and other poisonous snakes make. It blocks a molecule at the junction between a nerve and muscle, preventing nerve impulses from passing to the muscles. Another resembles the toxin made by the Japanese fugu puffer fish, which paralyzes muscles by preventing electrical signals from spreading through the muscle from the place where the nerve touches it.

The snail's poisons hit its prey in so many places, Dr. Olivera said, that an equivalent brew made from other known toxins would have to include: curare, the poison that natives of the Amazon put on their arrows; tetrodotoxin, the poison of the puffer fish; and the botulinum toxin.

The snails probably developed the diverse and powerful toxins because they had to paralyze their prey quickly. "Once a snail harpoons a fish, it can't have the fish jerking around," Dr. Olivera said. "That would attract other predators."

So, he said, the snails developed toxins consisting of small protein fragments, or peptides, that not only paralyze fish but shock them in much the way that an electric eel shocks its prey. "The first thing you see is that the fish's fins stiffen up," Dr. Olivera said. "It's rigid, as if it is being shocked. That gives time for the toxins that wipe out the nerve-muscle connections to spread through its body. It's a one-two punch."

Dr. Olivera, who began studying the snails full time about six years ago, learned that each of the 500 species of cone snails seemed to have its own distinct collection of toxins and that these tiny, rigid peptides are just a fraction of the size of poisons made by snakes, scorpions or spiders.

And they were amazingly specific. One, which he named the omega toxin, prevents certain nerve cells from releasing their signals by blocking calcium channels, tunnels in nerve cells that open to allow calcium to enter.

It is the omega toxin that the Neuroex Corp. is studying to relieve intractable pain. Dr. Goddard said that about 150,000 American cancer patients had severe pain that was not relieved even by morphine and that 700,000 more people had intractable pain from conditions like shingles. His company's current study involves patients with cancer and AIDS who are receiving the omega toxin directly into their spinal cords.

Treating Depression in the Aged

By Caryle Murphy
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Depression, which can generally be treated and reversed, is the leading cause of suicide among the elderly, according to experts who testified before the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging.

"Tragically, the recognition of depression and initiation of treatment among elderly suicide victims has been rare," said Jane Pearson of the Mental Disorders of the Aging Research Branch, National Institute of Mental Health, in Rockville, Maryland. But "fortunately, the groundwork establishing the fact that depression late in life is not normal, and that it is treatable, is in place."

The hearing, chaired by Senator William Cohen (Republican of Maine), publicized the problem of elderly suicides, which began rising in 1980 after 40 years of decline.

Today Americans over age 65 account for one-fifth of this country's annual 30,000 suicides, although they comprise only 13 percent of the population.

The elderly "account for a disproportionate share of all deaths by suicide," said Dr. David Clark, a psy-

chologist and director of the Center for Suicide Research and Prevention in Chicago.

Dr. Clark and other psychiatric health care professionals stressed that many of the elderly who commit suicide showed symptoms of depression before their deaths, but neither families nor primary care physicians detected these signs and so the condition went untreated.

The witnesses called for greater efforts to educate the public and physicians about signs of depression among the elderly, which include sleeplessness, appetite problems, social withdrawal, lack of energy, loss of interest and constipation.

Often these symptoms go unnoticed because seniors do not talk about their emotional problems and do not admit to feeling down.

Typically, "approximately 40 percent of suicide victims see their primary care provider in the last week of life and 70 percent in the last month," according to Dr. Eric Caine, a geriatric psychiatrist and professor of psychiatry at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

The witnesses also challenged the belief that depression is a normal condition among seniors. Dr. Ira Katz, professor of psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, told the committee that a poll conducted for the

Geriatric Psychiatry Alliance, a private group dedicated to educating the public on senior psychiatric problems, found that 93 percent of Americans believe "late-life depression" is an inevitable reaction to disease and not a treatable illness.

On the contrary, Dr. Katz said, "we know that depression is not an inevitable or an irreversible part of either aging or physical illness."

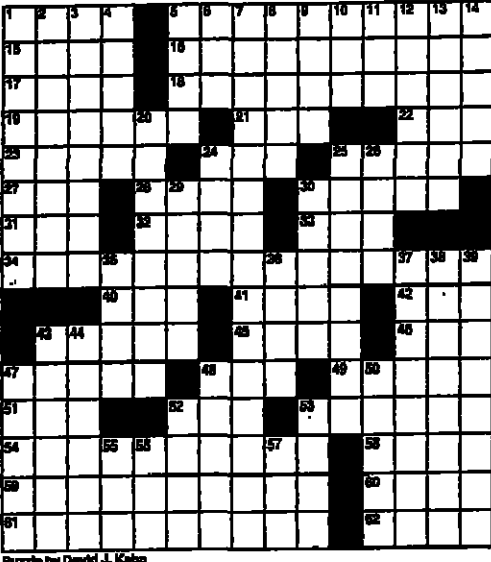
Dr. Clark cited an "insidious ageism which encourages too many people to think that the elderly have understandable reasons for undertaking suicide."

ANOTHER misperception is that most seniors who commit suicide are isolated or living apart from their families. The reality is that more than half are living with a family member and the "great majority" had frequent social contact and visitors up to the time of their deaths, Dr. Clark testified.

In addition, research has indicated that depression is not usually found in people who are terminally ill. Rather, it more often afflicts people in generally good physical health or those with "chronic, nagging" illnesses that are troublesome but not fatal. The great majority of terminally ill elders never become suicidal, one expert said.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Rock of —
 - Press output
 - Best bridge
 - Subject of a Longfellow poem
 - Ticks off
 - What happened next?
 - Give a price
 - Swear words
 - Negri of silence
 - Game divisions
 - Fall mo.
 - Moofish
 - Towel word
 - 50's TV game show
 - Norfolk Ints.
 - Absolute worst
 - Cenozoic, e.g.
 - In snooty
 - Old-fashioned fuel
 - Patriotic soc.
 - Yale students beginning in 1989
 - Barrett of Pink Floyd
 - Heston film role
 - Relevant
 - What's the —?
 - Fitting-room activities
 - 1987 #1 song
 - Spanish linen fabric
 - Down-to-the-wire campaign
 - Subject of peer pressure?
 - Words of despair
 - Or — (if not)
 - 1979 Poland film
 - Madame — of 60's Vietnam
 - Parnies: Abbr.
 - Judicata



© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz

Solution to Puzzle of Aug. 7

CREME GAGA DOJO
AUGER ABUT ELAL
READER MESH MAKE
ADDICTED TO LOVE
CTR SMUT
SISI EIN EMIGRE
GNN RADIO MOLES
RICKED ON FIDELIOS
WIKES LATER DOA
ALBERTS SSA DENY
PILT ROE
WILDA ABOUT HARRY
ZEBU CONS ADIEU
TRAN KNEE RENAL
PERK SEAR ANKLE

BOOKS

WHERE THE BODY MEETS MEMORY:

An Odyssey of Race, Sexuality, and Identity

By David Mura. 272 pages.

\$22.95. Doubleday Anchor.

Reviewed by Jonathan Rauch

SHE is 10 years old, wide-eyed, frightened by the bustle around her and by her parents' drained expressions. She and her family have been torn from their home in Seattle and shipped to a dusty internment camp — a polite kind of prison — in the high plains of Idaho, to be warehoused for the crime of being Japanese American.

Later she will struggle, successfully, to escape the shadow of wartime internment and join the American mainstream. How amazed she must be, then, to see her son make the same journey, but in the opposite direction.

Not long ago a front-page New York Times headline declared: "New sense of race arises among Asian Americans." David Mura's gorgeously lyrical, richly reflective and often angry memoir is for all who wonder why.

He began life as a "model minority" and "honorary white" who nonetheless felt always the outsider but never quite knew why. He arrives, in his forties, self-consciously a "person of color," able to feel at home in America only when he identifies with those who feel excluded from it.

Mura is a poet who lives in Minneapolis and whose last book, "Turning Japanese" (1991), chronicled a year of self-discovery in Japan. There Mura was an earnest but rambling diarist, as much dumping out his material as shaping it.

In "Where the Body Meets Memory" he emerges as a very different writer, one with a novelist's humane eye and a poet's taut economy. His prose is diamond-pure, and he

uses it to tell two stories in counterpoint, one of his parents' flight from their ethnicity and their past, the other of his own recovery of both.

His father's father was a nurseryman in Los Angeles, his mother's the owner of a produce store in Seattle. In 1942 both were abruptly ordered with their families into internment, the one in Arkansas, the other in Idaho. Some internees, their businesses upended and families disrupted, never recovered, but his parents prospered, his father becoming a successful public-relations executive, his mother "no different from thousands of other housewives in the North Shore suburbs."

But there was a difference: Silence shrouded their past. "We lived inside of silence after silence," Mura writes. "There was no past, there was no Buddhism, no Japanese language, no camps." For David, born in 1952, the silence was crushing.

He thrived as a boy but gradually, in his teens and twenties, fell apart, until he descended into a vampiric underworld of drugs, pornography and promiscuity. Time and again he would miserably leave his girlfriend (later wife) to ogle porn and cruise for women. Almost always they were white women.

Each arousal, each encounter, reminds him that the face of beauty in America is white or occasionally black but never Asian. "If I think of myself as at all attractive, it's in spite of my Asian features, not because of them," he writes. "Why am I invisible, how can I rip this face from myself?"

At last, when his misery becomes unendurable, he begins to put the pieces together. His identity and even his sexuality, he finds, are "directly tied to what happened nearly 50 years ago — the signing of Executive Order No. 9066 and the internment of the Japanese-American community."

In the end, he rebuilds himself around an identity he had not known he possessed.

"I could feel myself shifting, slowly becoming someone else, gaining a history and a sense of Asian American culture I hadn't even known existed. I started to think of myself not just as a Japanese American or an Asian American but as a person of color."

Mura now finds he cannot write for both Asians and whites; whites become, by the end of the book, "them." This he finds healing.

Others will find it troubling, as Mura fully intends. Must one really understand oneself racially to be at home in America?

Readers may be struck, as I

was, not by the ethnic uniqueness of Mura's experience but by its universality. His 1960s tug-of-war against a conformist father who forces him to cut his hair, his 1970s search for redemption in drugs and promiscuity, his 1980s marriage and flight from excess, his 1990s born-again multiculturalism: Far from distinguishing him from mainstream America, these are all, for his generation, its very essence. In deciding he is different, he has finally joined the crowd.

Jonathan Rauch, the author of "The Outcast: A Search for the Soul of Japan," wrote this for The Washington Post.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

ON the diagrammed deal at the quarterfinals of the Grand National Teams, Arjun Ray was in two spades and received a club lead. East won with the ace and returned the queen to the king. South led a low diamond and East returned the club jack.

When South ruffed and led the spade queen, the nine on his right was a straw in the wind. Since East had produced

10 points in the minor suits, and had not entered the bidding, South, sure the heart ace was on his left, led that suit, and West played low with dummy's king duly winning.

Now South led to the spade ace, uncovering the feared bad split, and cashed the diamond ace. Another diamond lead was won by the queen, and West had the lead in this ending:

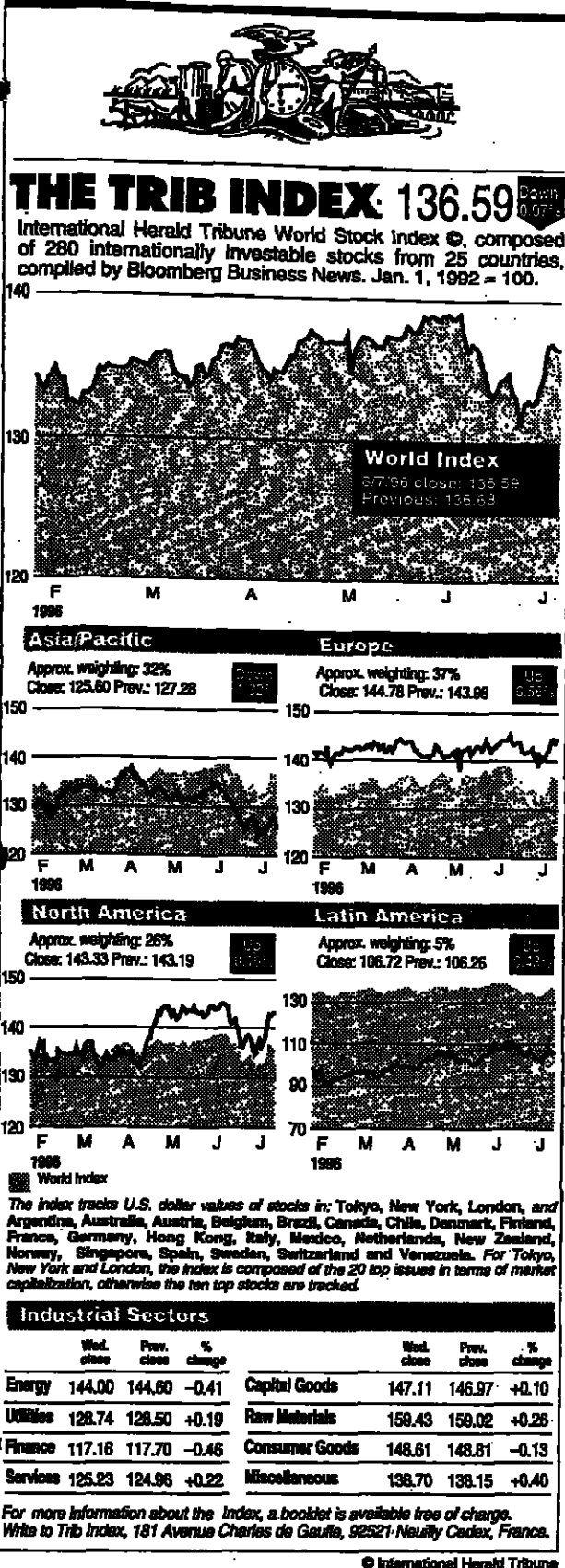
NORTH		WEST		EAST		SOUTH	
♠ K	♥ 4	♠ J	♥ 10	♠ Q	♥ 10	♠ 10	♥ 9
♠ 6	♥ 2	♠ 7	♥ 3	♠ 8	♥ 4	♠ 9	♥ 8
♠ 5	♥ A	♠ A	♥ 5	♠ 4	♥ 6	♠ 7	♥ 7
♠ 4	♥ 3	♠ 3	♥ 4	♠ 2	♥ 2	♠ 6	♥ 3
♠ 3	♥ 1	♠ 2	♥ A	♠ A	♥ 1	♠ 5	♥ 1
♠ 2	♥ 1	♠ 1	♥ 1	♠ 1	♥ 1	♠ 4	♥ 1
♠ 1	♥ 1	♠ 1	♥ 1	♠ 1	♥ 1	♠ 3	♥ 1

Both sides were vulnerable. The bidding: South West North East 1♠ 1♠ 2♠ 3♠ Pass Pass Pass

West led the heart ace and followed with the jack to his partner's queen thus trapping West's spade jack in a smother position. Ray then made a contract that failed in the replay.

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Netscape Faces Off Microsoft

Internet Limitations Lead to Antitrust Threat

By John Markoff
New York Times Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Netscape Communications Corp.'s bitter software marketing war with Microsoft Corp. erupted into a threat of legal action this week as Netscape brought the dispute to the attention of the Justice Department's antitrust division.

In a letter to Microsoft, with a copy to the Justice Department, a lawyer for Netscape accused Microsoft of antitrust violations for placing limits on the number of Internet connections that can be made to a single copy of Microsoft NT Workstation software.

The limits, specified in Microsoft's customer-licensing agreements, impinge on Netscape's ability to sell one of its own software products for use with NT Workstation, the letter said.

Netscape has been promoting use of its \$295 Fast-track Server software, in conjunction with Microsoft's \$319 NT Workstation, as an affordable way for corporate customers to operate servers, or data storehouses, on the Internet.

But the Microsoft stipulation, which sets a limit of 10 simultaneous Internet connections with NT Workstation, is forcing customers wanting an Internet server to obtain a more expensive version of the Microsoft product, called NT Server.

That product, when bundled with Microsoft's own Internet server product, sells for \$699 — a package price that Netscape says it cannot compete with if NT Server and Netscape's Fast-track must be purchased separately.

No Justice Department official who had seen the Netscape letter was immediately available for comment.

NT Workstation and NT Server are both computer operating systems, which are a class of software that any customer needs before using an application software program like Netscape's Fast-track.

Gary Reback, the Silicon Valley lawyer who wrote the letter and who has made previous antitrust ac-

cusations against Microsoft, said the company was using its dominance in operating-system software to wrest an unfair advantage over competitors.

He said he wrote the letter in response to Microsoft's recent letter to Netscape, accusing it of deceptive advertising in asserting that Fast-track and NT Workstation were the most affordable way to create an Internet server.

Reback said Microsoft's usage restrictions on NT Workstation were an unwarranted attempt to undermine Netscape's pricing advantage.

Microsoft executives who had seen the letter said that Netscape was failing to acknowledge that NT Workstation and NT Server were two distinct products, with different designs.

"It sounds like we need to do some more work with Netscape to educate them," said Jonathan Roberts, a Microsoft director responsible for product marketing.

Mr. Roberts said NT Workstation was primarily intended for single-user desktop computers, while NT Server was intended for systems in which many users retrieved files simultaneously.

For each program to work as intended, they need to be "tuned" by Microsoft engineers, Mr. Roberts said, adding that such alterations could not be made by customers.

But some Microsoft customers do not accept that distinction and said they think the company is arbitrarily setting the two products apart to fit a desired revenue model.

"I don't think that there are really any substantial differences," said Tim O'Reilly of O'Reilly & Associates, a software publisher in Sebastopol, California.

Moreover, he said, Internet technology made it difficult, if not impossible, for customers to enforce a 10-connection limit on NT Workstation, even if they wanted to.

Netscape stock closed Wednesday at 48 1/4, up 1/4, while Microsoft closed at 124 1/4, up 3/4.

France to Freeze Budget to Meet Maastricht Limits

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — In an optimistic statement not entirely shared by financial markets, Prime Minister Alain Juppe said Wednesday that he would freeze the 1997 budget at this year's level, hit the Maastricht criteria for a single European currency and even have money left over for tax cuts.

"I think everybody doubted it, but we made it," Mr. Juppe said after ministers were handed their 1997 budget assignments in sealed envelopes.

Central government spending will be held at 1.5 trillion francs (about \$300 billion) in 1997, which represents a 2 percent decline in spending after adjusting for inflation.

Finance Minister Jean Arthuis said the freeze in public spending was unprecedented in this country and would enable France to reduce its public deficit next year to 3 percent of gross domestic product, the upper limit for countries hoping to join the single currency in 1999.

Meanwhile, the franc is feeling speculative heat, declining to a four-month low against the Deutsche mark as dealers probed for weaknesses in what one analyst called Mr. Juppe's "land of milk and honey" vision.

The Deutsche mark rose to

3,411.5 francs in Paris trading from 3,401.2 on Tuesday. In New York, the dollar ended at 5.0635 francs, up from 5.0560 francs at the close on Tuesday.

The CAC 40 stock index fell 0.13 percent, to 1,996.74, on Wednesday, while many other European stock markets rose, although the yield on the 10-year French government bond fell 4 basis points to 6.35 and its spread against the comparable 10-year German issue was unchanged.

The government plans to shed about 8,000 civil service jobs — adding to existing 12.5 percent unemployment — to help save 60 billion francs and will collect an estimated 120 billion francs through a variety of previously announced taxes this year. In return, it will hand back an undefined sum — the daily Le Monde guessed 20 billion francs — to taxpayers, and perhaps even give people who pay no taxes a small financial lift by discounting their TV license fees.

Analysts are skeptical that Mr. Juppe can reach his 1997 targets without a spurt of economic growth, whereas the economic indicators point to a slowdown in the economy and a reduction in state revenue.

GDP fell slightly, by 0.1 percent, in the second quarter, according to the

See FRANCE, Page 14

Commission Gains Power Earnings for Banks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Three major European banks reported strong increases in first-half earnings Wednesday as commission incomes soared.

Earnings reports from Dresdner Bank AG, Standard Chartered PLC and Abbey National PLC followed bullish results from other financial institutions this week as Barclays PLC, HSBC Holdings PLC, Midland Bank PLC and Union

Bank of Switzerland, which also showed strength in the first half.

But Christiana Bank ASA of Norway said its net profit for the first half dropped because of a one-time adjustment, even though its operating profit gained.

Dresdner Bank AG reported a 44 percent increase in operating profits for the first half, attributing the rise to the success of its securities business. But it cast doubt

on whether it could sustain that rate of growth the rest of the year.

Operating profit, which is calculated before taxes and after risk provisions and own-account trading, was 1.42 billion Deutsche marks (\$959.5 million), up from 984 million DM in the first half of 1995, the bank said.

Profit from securities in the liquidity portfolio rose 53 percent to 366.4 million DM.

"The gain in earnings was attributable largely to an extremely successful first quarter, and it should not be assumed that this rate of growth can be sustained over the year as a whole," a report to shareholders said.

Dresdner's net interest income, the difference between lending and borrowing rates, for the period was

See BANKS, Page 15

Paris Vows To Retaliate

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — France will quickly retaliate if French companies are affected by U.S. sanctions against companies investing in Iran and Libya, a government spokesman, Alain Lamassoure, said Wednesday.

"If it appears that French companies are affected by these measures, France would have to make immediate retaliatory action," Mr. Lamassoure told reporters after a weekly cabinet meeting.

The spokesman said President Jacques Chirac had instructed the French government to take a firm line in consultation with the nation's European Union partners.

President Bill Clinton on Monday signed a bill into law setting out sanctions against companies that make new investments of more than \$40 million in oil or gas projects in Iran and Libya, which the United States contends are the main sponsors of international terrorism. (AP, Reuters)

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

Record Company Chief Follows Own Muse

By John Schmid
International Herald Tribune

GRAEFELING, Germany — Manfred Eicher says he is often asked when he will make a follow-up to his small music company's best-selling disk of the last decade. Although the question is standard in the music business, Mr. Eicher's response is not.

"There are no plans for a second 'Officium,'" Mr. Eicher said of the 1994 release that features the Norwegian saxophonist Jan Garbarek improvising around the Hiland Ensemble as they sing plainsong, medieval liturgical music that is usually unaccompanied.

"A recording project like this simply cannot be repeated," he said. The hunch was that Mr. Garbarek's expressive saxophone could play "with hymnic intensity," Mr. Eicher said, an experiment that risked criticism from early-music and jazz purists alike. In less than two years, "Officium" has sold more than 700,000 copies.

"That is a huge success for that kind of record," said Joe Remick, a jazz specialist at a Vienna radio station. Noting that a record becomes gold after a half million copies, he added: "That is a success, period. Some pop records do not sell that well."

Mr. Eicher, who founded ECM Records GmbH in 1969 as a jazz label, has the reputation of ignoring how business gets done in the music industry. He has no budgets and no sales targets. ECM



Manfred Eicher at an ECM mixing board: "I search for the unheard."

eschews standard marketing. It is a company that once carried the slogan: "The most beautiful sound next to silence."

Yet, in the view of music critics and even some of the company's bigger rivals, ECM ranks as one of Europe's most innovative and successful independent labels. For 27 years, ECM has thrived without the support of a deep-pocketed parent company and without a popular-music line to generate sales.

It remains profitable, Mr. Eicher said, even if some of his titles do not break even.

Although the staff numbers only

eight, ECM has a catalog approaching 600 titles. Neither composers nor musicians are bound by contract to record exclusively at ECM. The American pianist Keith Jarrett, whose 1975 "Koein Concert" has sold more than 2.5 million copies for ECM, has stayed with ECM since 1970 with only a handshake.

Privately held ECM does not report its sales and earnings. Mr. Eicher claims he does not know them.

"I do not know what I am searching

See MUSIC, Page 19

STET Shares 'Massacred' in Milan

Bloomberg Business News

MILAN — STET SPA shares dropped Wednesday amid disappointment that the Italian government had failed to give detailed plans for spinning off businesses as part of the proposed sale of its stake in the telecommunications company, valued at about \$10 billion.

STET shares tumbled 235 lire (15.5 cents) to close at 4,765 lire after the government said it would sell its 64 percent stake by March.

"It would be euphemistic to say the government's plans were not well received — the stock is getting massacred," said Diego Cavioli, an investment man-

ager at Credito Italiano SPA in Milan.

Shares of other STET companies, including Sirti SPA, Telecom Italia Mobile SPA and Telecom Italia SPA, also fell, bringing the market lower. With telecommunications shares having lifted the overall stock market recently, Wednesday's slide did not bode well.

"Telecoms had been the market's main theme," said Marco Croce, head of equity trading at Monte Paschi Mercati SIM.

"Now it's difficult to see where the market will get its spark from."

STET shares had risen in recent weeks on expectations it would raise money from selling peripheral units.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates									
	1	5	10	20	50	100	250	500	1000
Australia	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48
Canada	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69
France	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45
Germany	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36
Italy	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36
Japan	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00
UK	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
Switzerland	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48
Sweden	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46
Spain	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37
South Africa	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75
South Korea	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00
Taiwan	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Thailand	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
US Dollar	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Yen	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00
Other Dollar Values									
Canada	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69
France	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45	160.45
Germany	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36
Italy	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36
Japan	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00
UK	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
Switzerland	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48
Sweden	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46	8.46
Spain	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37	166.37
South Africa	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75
South Korea	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00
Taiwan	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Thailand	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
US Dollar	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Yen	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00
Libor-Libor Rates									
1-month	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
3-month	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
6-month	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
1-year	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Key Money Rates									
Discount rate	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
3-month T-bill	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
6-month T-bill	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
1-year T-bill	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
Forward Rates									
1-month	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36
3-month	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36
6-month	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36
1-year	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36

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Herald Tribune

NASDAQ

Wednesday's 4 p.m.
The 1,000 most-traded National Market securities
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

12 Month High Low Stock Div Yld PE 100 High Low Last Chg

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12 Month High Low Stock Div Yld PE 100 High Low Last Chg

12 Month High Low Stock Div Yld PE 100 High Low Last Chg

Japan's Recovery Still Needs Support

Reuters
TOKYO — Japan's economy is continuing on a course of gradual recovery, despite a disappointing slip in industrial output, but still needs easy credit to help it along, the government said Wednesday.

In its regular monthly report on the health of the economy, the Economic Planning Agency said the recovery was still making only slow progress and had yet to reach a self-sustaining stage.

"The economy is continuing to recover, as seen in the increasingly bullish tone in private-sector demand, but the tempo of the recovery is gradual for now," the agency said.

Sharing the view that the economic recovery was moderate, Yasuo Matsushita, governor of the Bank of Japan, told a news conference later in the day that the central bank would maintain its current low-interest-rate policy to provide support to the economy.

The government declared in February that the economy had finally come out of four years of the slump that followed the collapse of the 1980s "bubble" economy.

The agency's economic assessment was virtually unchanged from the previous report, using the same phraseology as before. The wording of the report is scrupulously

timized by markets for any hints of growing confidence about the status of the recovery, which could imply that an interest-rate increase is in the offing.

An agency official said that although employment conditions had improved slightly and corporate capital investment was increasing rapidly, weak industrial output figures and a gradual recovery in private consumption clouded the picture, leaving the government unable to issue a brighter assessment than before. But he said medium and large companies were optimistic about their capital investment plans this year, suggesting the recovery might be set to gather strength.

Kodak Files Complaint

Eastman Kodak Co. filed a complaint with the Japan Fair Trade Commission on Wednesday, alleging that it has been unfairly blocked from the Japanese photographic film and paper market. The Associated Press reported from Tokyo.

The U.S. film giant has argued that Fuji Photo Film Co. and Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry have collaborated to keep foreign products out of Japan's film market. Kodak says it has lost \$5.6 billion in sales since 1973 because of unfair trade practices.

But Tokyo-based Fuji, with 70 percent of Japanese film sales compared to Kodak's 9 percent, says Kodak's lackluster share of the lucrative market stems from bad marketing, not unfair trade.

Investor's Asia

Exchange	Index	Wednesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong Hang Seng		11,127.50	11,134.80	-0.06
Singapore Straits Times		2,134.51	2,129.36	+0.24
Sydney All Ordinaries		2,221.80	2,222.90	-0.05
Tokyo Nikkei 225		20,477.54	20,744.88	-1.29
Kuala Lumpur Composite		1,100.13	1,093.52	+0.60
Bangkok SET		1,133.33	1,125.48	+0.70
Seoul Composite Index		834.03	828.05	+0.72
Taipei Stock Market Index		6,261.48	6,268.98	-0.09
Manila PSE		3,128.62	3,121.52	+0.23
Jakarta Composite Index		553.94	554.79	-0.15
Wellington NZSE-40		2,171.55	2,164.36	+0.33
Bombay Sensitive Index		3,543.44	3,481.29	+1.79

Source: Reuters

Very briefly:

- Machinery orders in Japan fell 19.1 percent in June from a year earlier, the Japan Society of Industrial Machinery Manufacturers said.
- Tata Engineering & Locomotive Co., an Indian automaker, priced its issue of global depositary receipts at \$14.25 each. Each global receipt represents one underlying share of Tata on the Bombay Stock Exchange.
- Industrial production in China rose 12.3 percent in July from a year earlier, to 152.4 billion yuan (\$18.25 billion), the State Statistics Bureau said reported.
- Toyota Motor Corp. and Texas Instruments Inc. will form a joint venture to make microchips in Japan, in which they will invest 150 billion yen (\$1.4 billion), Nikkei News Service reported.
- PT Indonesia Satellite Corp. (Indosat) said first-half net profit rose 6.4 percent from a year earlier to 235.1 billion rupiah (\$100 million).
- Japan has surpassed the United States to become the second-largest investor in Shanghai so far this year, the official Xinhua news agency reported. Hong Kong remains the leader, accounting for almost 40 percent of all foreign investment.

LG Semicon Plans IPO Next Month

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
SEOUL — South Korea's leading chipmaker, LG Semicon Co., will be listed on the Korea Stock Exchange in October after an initial public offering in September, the lead manager of the issue said Wednesday.

Kang Hee Jin, an official at Hyundai Securities Co., said the initial offer price was lowered to 20,000 won (\$24.66) from 23,000 won after LG Semicon

reduced its earnings projection for this year because of a slowing global semiconductor market.

LG Semicon said its first-half pretax profit slumped 60.5 percent from a year earlier to 170 billion won.

The company said that the first-half profit fell because of a sharp drop in export prices. Its sales rose 20 percent, to 1.2 trillion won, from the same period last year. (Bloomberg, AFP)

Malaysia to Review Electricity Monopoly

Bloomberg Business News
KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia will appoint a foreign consultant to review Tenaga Nasional Bhd.'s monopoly on electricity distribution.

The move follows a peninsula-wide weekend power failure. Some analysts had thought the government might immediately revoke Tenaga's monopoly.



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Herald Tribune

THE HERALD TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER

putting

Wednesday's 4 p.m. Close

(Continued)

1981	10 Month	Low Loss	Div	Yr	PE	1980	Low Loss	Div
24	1	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	2	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	3	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	4	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	5	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	6	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	7	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	8	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	9	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	10	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	11	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	12	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	13	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	14	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	15	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	16	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	17	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	18	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	19	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	20	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	21	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	22	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	23	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	24	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	25	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
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24	28	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	29	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	30	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	31	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	32	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	33	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	34	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	35	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	36	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	37	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	38	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	39	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	40	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	41	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	42	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	43	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	44	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	45	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	46	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	47	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	48	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	49	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	50	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	51	1000000000	0	2.7	1	412	2815	79
24	52	1000000000	0	2				

NAME	RES.	DATE	TIME	REMARKS
1. J. A. Smith	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
2. J. B. Jones	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
3. J. C. Brown	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
4. J. D. White	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
5. J. E. Black	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
6. J. F. Green	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
7. J. G. Hall	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
8. J. H. King	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
9. J. I. Lee	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
10. J. J. Scott	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
11. J. K. Adams	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
12. J. L. Baker	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
13. J. M. Campbell	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
14. J. N. Evans	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
15. J. O. Fisher	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
16. J. P. Gibson	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
17. J. Q. Harris	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
18. J. R. Ingram	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
19. J. S. Jackson	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
20. J. T. Kelly	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
21. J. U. Lewis	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
22. J. V. Martin	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
23. J. W. Miller	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
24. J. X. Nelson	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
25. J. Y. Oliver	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
26. J. Z. Parker	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
27. J. A. Quinn	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
28. J. B. Reed	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
29. J. C. Shaw	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
30. J. D. Taylor	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
31. J. E. Thomas	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
32. J. F. Walker	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
33. J. G. Young	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
34. J. H. Allen	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
35. J. I. Wright	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
36. J. J. King	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
37. J. K. Hill	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
38. J. L. Scott	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
39. J. M. Green	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
40. J. N. Adams	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
41. J. O. Baker	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
42. J. P. Campbell	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
43. J. Q. Evans	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
44. J. R. Fisher	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
45. J. S. Gibson	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
46. J. T. Harris	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
47. J. U. Ingram	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
48. J. V. Jackson	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
49. J. W. Kelly	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
50. J. X. Lewis	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
51. J. Y. Martin	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
52. J. Z. Miller	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
53. J. A. Nelson	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
54. J. B. Oliver	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
55. J. C. Parker	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
56. J. D. Quinn	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
57. J. E. Reed	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
58. J. F. Shaw	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
59. J. G. Taylor	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
60. J. H. Thomas	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
61. J. I. Walker	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
62. J. J. Young	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
63. J. K. Allen	100	10/10/10	10:00	100
64. J. L. Wright				

[illegible][illegible]

Line	Time	Lat	Long	Alt	Speed	Heading	Temp	Pressure	Humidity	Wind	Wave	Sea	Cloud	Vis	Remarks
1	0000	34 00	122 00	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
2	0005	34 05	122 05	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
3	0010	34 10	122 10	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
4	0015	34 15	122 15	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
5	0020	34 20	122 20	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
6	0025	34 25	122 25	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
7	0030	34 30	122 30	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
8	0035	34 35	122 35	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
9	0040	34 40	122 40	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
10	0045	34 45	122 45	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
11	0050	34 50	122 50	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
12	0055	34 55	122 55	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
13	0100	35 00	123 00	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
14	0105	35 05	123 05	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
15	0110	35 10	123 10	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
16	0115	35 15	123 15	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
17	0120	35 20	123 20	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
18	0125	35 25	123 25	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
19	0130	35 30	123 30	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
20	0135	35 35	123 35	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
21	0140	35 40	123 40	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
22	0145	35 45	123 45	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
23	0150	35 50	123 50	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
24	0155	35 55	123 55	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
25	0200	36 00	124 00	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
26	0205	36 05	124 05	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
27	0210	36 10	124 10	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
28	0215	36 15	124 15	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Clear
29	0220	36 20	124 20	10	0.0	000	50.0	1013.2	75	0.0	0.0				

[illegible]

NAME	AGE	SEX	REL	EDUC	INDUSTRY	INCOME	PROPERTY	DEBT	STATUS	REMARKS
John Doe	35	M	H	HS	Farmer	\$12,000	\$5,000	\$10,000	Married	Good
Jane Doe	32	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$12,000	\$5,000	\$10,000	Married	Good
Robert Smith	45	M	H	HS	Teacher	\$15,000	\$8,000	\$15,000	Married	Good
Mary Smith	42	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$15,000	\$8,000	\$15,000	Married	Good
William Brown	55	M	H	HS	Retired	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$10,000	Married	Good
Elizabeth Brown	52	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$10,000	Married	Good
James Wilson	25	M	S	HS	Student	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$5,000	Single	Good
Patricia Wilson	22	F	D	HS	Student	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$5,000	Single	Good
Charles Davis	60	M	H	HS	Retired	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$8,000	Married	Good
Barbara Davis	58	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$8,000	Married	Good
Michael Johnson	30	M	H	HS	Engineer	\$18,000	\$10,000	\$18,000	Married	Good
Linda Johnson	28	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$18,000	\$10,000	\$18,000	Married	Good
David Miller	40	M	H	HS	Manager	\$20,000	\$12,000	\$20,000	Married	Good
Susan Miller	38	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$20,000	\$12,000	\$20,000	Married	Good
Thomas White	50	M	H	HS	Retired	\$12,000	\$15,000	\$12,000	Married	Good
Karen White	48	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$12,000	\$15,000	\$12,000	Married	Good
Christopher Lee	20	M	S	HS	Student	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$3,000	Single	Good
Amanda Lee	18	F	D	HS	Student	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$3,000	Single	Good
Gregory Hall	65	M	H	HS	Retired	\$7,000	\$9,000	\$7,000	Married	Good
Deborah Hall	62	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$7,000	\$9,000	\$7,000	Married	Good
Benjamin King	35	M	H	HS	Engineer	\$16,000	\$9,000	\$16,000	Married	Good
Michelle King	32	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$16,000	\$9,000	\$16,000	Married	Good
Harold Green	55	M	H	HS	Retired	\$9,000	\$11,000	\$9,000	Married	Good
Frances Green	52	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$9,000	\$11,000	\$9,000	Married	Good
Timothy Adams	28	M	H	HS	Student	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$4,000	Single	Good
Stephanie Adams	25	F	D	HS	Student	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$4,000	Single	Good
Donald Baker	62	M	H	HS	Retired	\$11,000	\$13,000	\$11,000	Married	Good
Carol Baker	60	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$11,000	\$13,000	\$11,000	Married	Good
Eric Carter	38	M	H	HS	Engineer	\$17,000	\$10,000	\$17,000	Married	Good
Kimberly Carter	35	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$17,000	\$10,000	\$17,000	Married	Good
Frank Evans	58	M	H	HS	Retired	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$10,000	Married	Good
Ann Evans	55	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$10,000	Married	Good
Robert Foster	22	M	S	HS	Student	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$4,000	Single	Good
Christina Foster	20	F	D	HS	Student	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$4,000	Single	Good
George Harris	68	M	H	HS	Retired	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$8,000	Married	Good
Virginia Harris	65	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$8,000	Married	Good
Paul Nelson	32	M	H	HS	Engineer	\$16,000	\$9,000	\$16,000	Married	Good
Heather Nelson	30	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$16,000	\$9,000	\$16,000	Married	Good
Kenneth Parker	52	M	H	HS	Retired	\$11,000	\$13,000	\$11,000	Married	Good
Janet Parker	50	F	W	HS	Homemaker	\$11,000	\$13,000	\$11,000	Married	

Mr. Royce

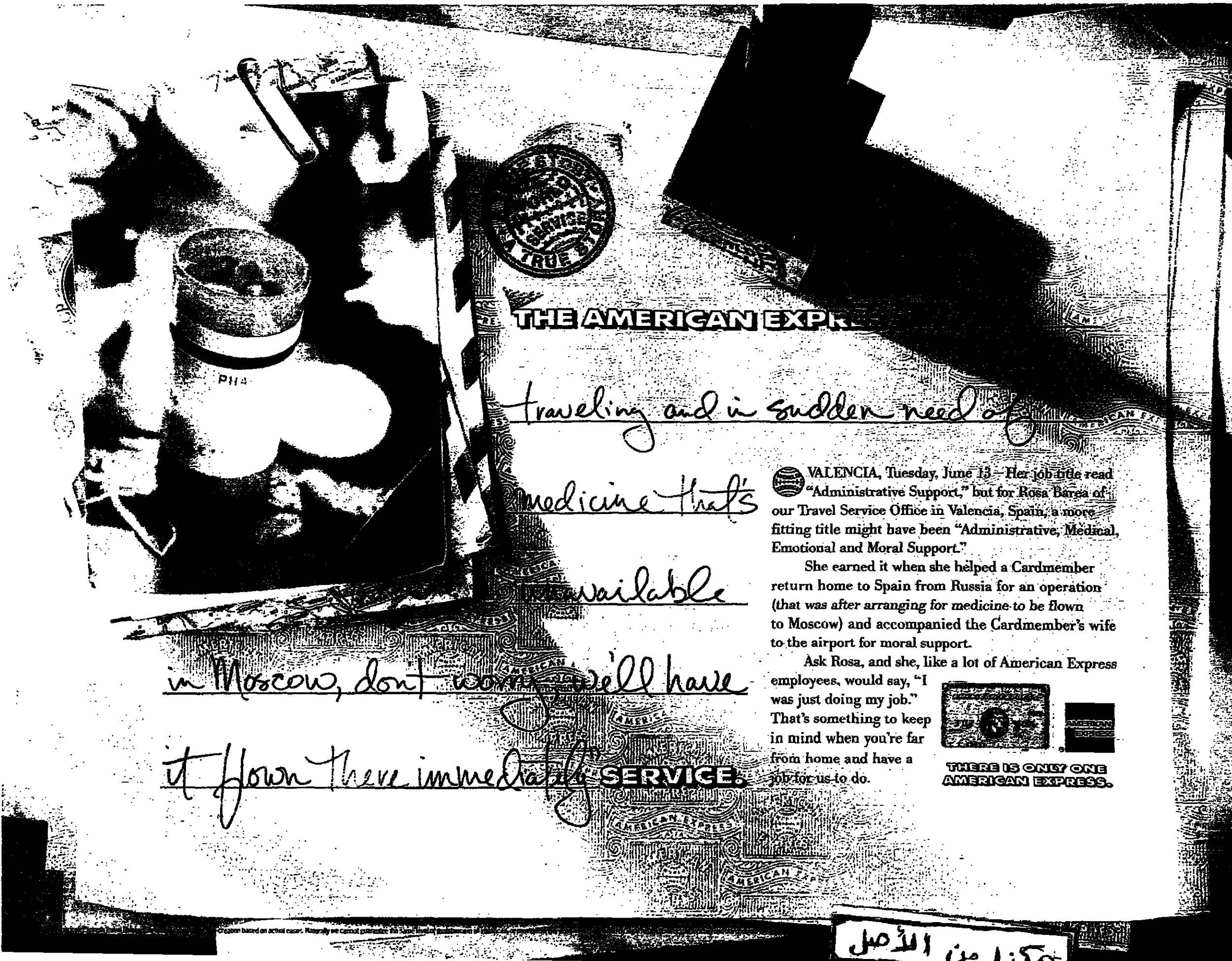
Mr. Babbitt

Mr. Babbitt

THE

Al-Royce Seon

Sp. in Publishing
and other material



THE AMERICAN EXPERIMENT


traveling and in sudden need of

medicine that's

unavailable

in Moscow, don't worry. We'll have


it down there immediately **SERVICE.**

 VALENCIA, Tuesday, June 13 - Her job title read "Administrative Support," but for Rosa Barga of our Travel Service Office in Valencia, Spain, a more fitting title might have been "Administrative, Medical, Emotional and Moral Support."

She earned it when she helped a Cardmember return home to Spain from Russia for an operation (that was after arranging for medicine to be flown to Moscow) and accompanied the Cardmember's wife to the airport for moral support.

Ask Rosa, and she, like a lot of American Express employees, would say, "I was just doing my job."

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ASIA/PACIFIC

Rolls-Royce Scored Major Coup With Singapore Airlines Engine Sale

By Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — When the first of Singapore Airlines Ltd.'s record order of up to 77 Boeing Co. 777 passenger jets enters service in 1997, it will break a monopoly on supply of large jet engines to the carrier held by Pratt & Whitney of the United States for over twenty years.

The success of Britain's Rolls-Royce PLC in selling its Trent 800 engine to Singapore Airlines for the B-777 in November was overshadowed at the time by the size of the total order, worth \$12.7 billion, and by the fact that the carrier had chosen the Boeing twin-engine jet over a rival plane offered by Europe's Airbus Industrie consortium.

But analysts and executives say that the engine order was a major coup for Rolls-Royce — one that has helped it gain a dominant share of recent engine sales for wide-bodied aircraft in Asia as well as a strong position worldwide.

Rolls-Royce paid the value of the order at \$1.2 billion (\$1.84 billion). Despite this sudden leap forward, the British company still lags Pratt & Whitney, which is a subsidiary of United Technologies Corp., in its share of the market for B-777 engines. Rolls-Royce has, however, moved well ahead of General Electric Co. of the United States, the third major manufacturer of engines for large civilian jets.

"Singapore Airlines is recognized as being a very, very rigorous evaluator of new equipment," said Sir Ralph Robins, the chairman of Rolls-Royce, in a recent interview. "I think the fact that Singapore selected the Trent will have an effect around the area" as other carriers interested in the B-777 make a final decision on both the aircraft and the engine over the next year or so.

Those carriers include Asiana Airlines Inc. of South Korea, Air China, Taiwan's China Air Lines Ltd. and Garuda Indonesian Airways.

Delta Air Lines of the United States and Virgin Atlantic Airways Ltd. of Britain are also expected to make a similar decision this year.

So far, the Rolls-Royce Trent 800 has captured 60 percent of B-777 orders in Asia, worth a total of about \$2.50 billion.

Asia is seen as the key aviation market for the future because it is growing much faster than the other two leading areas, North America and Europe.

The B-777 — the world's largest twin-engine jet — is expected to prove particularly popular in Asia as a replacement for older B-747 jumbo jets on regional routes and for certain long-haul services to Europe and America where the volume of passenger traffic does not justify use of the larger B-747.

Worldwide, the Rolls-Royce Trent 800 engine has a 35 percent share of B-777 orders, compared with 41 percent

for Pratt & Whitney and 24 percent for General Electric.

The less powerful Trent 700 engine has been chosen for 40 percent of the orders of the Airbus 330, another large twin-engine aircraft that has become the main competitor to the B-777. Pratt & Whitney engines have 44 percent of A-330 orders, while General Electric has 16 percent.

The British company has been striving to ensure that it remains a serious player in the jet-engine market.

Sir Ralph said Rolls-Royce aimed to secure a long-term market share of at least 30 percent for its Trent family of engines.

They will include a new derivative being developed for Boeing's super-jumbo, which is due to enter service in 2000, and for a similar Airbus plane.

Pratt & Whitney and General Electric said recently that they would form a joint venture to develop a completely new engine for these aircraft, raising doubts that they could have it fully tested and certified by the time the first super-jumbo starts flying.

"By putting its derivative engine against a totally new engine, Rolls-Royce is well positioned to make sales on these new generation jumbos," said Colin M. Gibson, publisher and execu-

utive editor of Asian Aviation magazine.

Analysts said that Rolls-Royce's decision last month to quit the large steam-turbine business was designed to enable the company to concentrate on operations where it could be a world leader, such as jet-engine manufacturing and the power-generation business.

In the past few years, the company

has been rigorously cutting costs and expanding production to ensure that it remains a serious player in the jet-engine market, which accounts for two-thirds of its revenues.

But until it clinched the deal with Singapore Airlines, Rolls-Royce was far behind Pratt & Whitney in its sale of engines for the B-777 and was barely keeping up with GE.

Pratt & Whitney had secured large orders from United Airlines, the three main Japanese carriers, and Korean Air of South Korea while GE had orders from seven operators, including British Airways PLC and Saudia of Saudi Arabia.

"Singapore Airlines are hard bargainers and would not have gone for Rolls-Royce over Pratt & Whitney without being offered a very sweet

deal," one analyst said. "This was obviously a strategic decision by the British firm to buy market share."

He said that to swing the deal its way, Rolls-Royce would have had to undercut Pratt & Whitney's best and final price by at least 10 percent, or more than \$100 million, to compensate Singapore Airlines for the cost of investing in tooling, spare parts and support for a different make of engine. It was the first time Singapore Airlines had selected Rolls-Royce engines to power its aircraft since the it was formed in 1972.

While Rolls-Royce executives have denied that the company sold its engines to Singapore Airlines at a loss to help win an important customer and follow-on sales elsewhere in the region, it is clear that there was extremely intense competition, especially with Pratt & Whitney, for the contract.

"We were all shocked at how attractive the Rolls-Royce offer was, both in price and as a package deal," a Singapore Airlines executive said.

Apart from generous discounts based on the size of the order, he said that the British company had also promised to throw in some important technology transfers, including assistance to a Singapore Airlines engineering unit to form a regional maintenance and repair center for Rolls-Royce engines.

At a signing ceremony for the engine purchase in London in June, Choong Choong Kong, Singapore Airlines

managing director, said that in past bidding the carrier had never doubted Rolls-Royce's manufacturing expertise.

He said that the airline's previous decisions to opt for other engines "simply reflected the intense competition" within the market.

Asset Sale Bolsters Cathay Net

Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd. reported on Wednesday a 68 percent rise in first-half net profit to 1.65 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$213.2 million) as the sale of its stake in Hong Kong Dragon Airlines Ltd. added 541 million dollars to its bottom line, news agencies reported from Hong Kong.

Net profit in the period a year earlier was 983 million dollars. Sales rose to 15.22 billion dollars from 14.23 billion. Operating profit rose to 1.71 billion dollars from 1.03 billion dollars.

Peter Sutch, chairman of Cathay, said the airline expected "the second half of the year to be better than the first." Shares in the company slipped, however, to 13.10 dollars from 13.30.

In April, two Chinese companies agreed to pay 8.27 billion dollars for stakes in Cathay and Dragonair, breaking a 48-year hold on the Hong Kong air industry by the British company Swire Pacific Ltd. The Chinese investment eased concern that China would muscle in on Cathay's business after Hong Kong returns to mainland rule in July 1997. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

Profits Are Bubbling At Coca-Cola Amatil

Bloomberg Business News

SYDNEY — Coca-Cola Amatil Ltd., the largest publicly traded Coca-Cola bottler outside the United States, said Wednesday that first-half net profit rose 26.1 percent from the same period a year ago to 58.9 million Australian dollars (\$46 million).

Sales in the half-year ended June 30 rose 32.5 percent to 1.79 billion Australian dollars. Profit in the previous corresponding half was 46.7 million Australian dollars.

"The large growth, percentage-wise, came from Europe because of the combination of the growth of the market plus the acquisitions we've taken on board over the last year," said North Cole, managing director of the company.

He said that the profit outlook for the full year would be near analysts' expectations of a 15 percent increase over last year to a profit of about 160 million Australian dollars.

"We think the results we reported in the first half put us in a good position to deliver that for the full year," Mr. Cole said.

Earnings for the previous full year were 138.6 million Australian dollars.

Mr. Cole said the half-year results were affected by 5.2 million Australian dollars in retirement and redundancy expenses.

In February, the company announced the retirement of Bill Gibson as chief executive officer and a managing director.

George Batsakis, an analyst with J.B. Were, said the result, slightly above his forecast of 54 million Australian dollars, was largely driven by contributions from Australia and the company's recent acquisitions in Europe.

Directors declared an interim dividend of 9.5 cents, unchanged from the same half last year.

Le Groupe Generali renforce sa position sur le marché international

Primes: 15 800 millions d'ECU. Bénéfice: 343 millions d'ECU



MUSIC: Pioneer Record Firm

Continued from Page 13

for," said the 53-year-old entrepreneur. "I only search for something that I do not hear. Because if I would hear it, I would not have to search for it. So I search for the unheard."

These days, Mr. Eicher's search has him working with a group of contemporary classical composers from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

"I have always worked with musicians who were unknown when they started with us," said Mr. Eicher, who founded ECM with a loan of 16,000 DM when he was 24 years old. Keith Jarrett, Jan Garbarek, Pat Metheny and Chick Corea all recorded with ECM near the beginning of their careers.

A decade after Mr. Eicher veered from jazz into contemporary classical, the bigger labels are only just beginning to take on living composers.

Within the classical music world, there are not many labels pursuing contemporary composers and new music," said Aimee Gautreau, vice president of marketing at Angel Records, a division of EMI Records, one of the world's biggest recording companies.

"That is a pity, and that is another reason why ECM is so successful. I really would credit ECM for doing something no one else was doing."

Although many still pigeonhole ECM as a jazz label, in 1984 Mr. Eicher began a separate line called the ECM New Series. Its repertoire extends from Early Music to contemporary composition, often choral. Many New Series projects defy easy definition. One disk has the actor Bruno Ganz reciting poetry by Friedrich Hölderlin.

The first New Series recording was "Tabula Rasa," by the then obscure Estonian composer Arvo Part. It became an international classical hit. Arvo Part has just released "Liny," his fifth ECM recording.

Significantly, the New Series began a decade before modern music became commercially hip. A year after Mr. Eicher recorded "Officium," Angel Records mas-

marketed a disk of Gregorian chants by Spanish monks. That recording topped classical charts around the world, crept onto some pop charts and sold over 6 million disks. Angel has capitalized on that success, and it is about to release the fourth sequel.

Mr. Eicher, however, said he savors his independence and would avoid such strategies driven by mass marketing. Three times since the New Series began, bigger record companies have offered to buy ECM, he said. Each time, he refused.

"I am in a fortunate situation," he said in his book-and-CD-cluttered office above a discount hi-fi store in a suburb of Munich. "I do not have to consult with anybody about what I want to record."

ECM, which stands for "Editions of Contemporary Music," can afford to bypass big-ticket marketing campaigns because critics devote regular reviews to ECM releases, said Ms. Gautreau of Angel. "ECM is a real favorite of the classical critics and what I call the classical aficionados," she said.

One of the company's quirks is that ECM avoids traditional recording studios. "Officium" was recorded at St. Gerold's monastery in the Austrian Alps, using an uncomplicated two-track with no over-dubbing, making it close to a live performance. Some of what the trade press approvingly calls "the ECM sound" stems from recording venues such as King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England; St. Eustache in Paris, and, most recently, a church in Tallinn, Estonia.

"To sculpt tone, to discover the architecture of sound, you need the best venues, rooms that have resonance that allows tones to travel," Mr. Eicher said.

Those locations can spawn improvisation. During the 1988 recording of Arvo Part's "Passio" in St. Jude's-on-the-Hill church in London, the wind howled so loudly around the church windows that they either had to stop the recording or integrate the wind into the music.

The wind has become part of the performance. "I love these kinds of accidents because they are unrepeatable," Mr. Eicher said.

L'ACTIVITE DU GROUPE

En 1995, avec un chiffre d'affaires de 16.800 millions d'ECU, le Groupe Generali s'est confirmé non seulement dans le cercle des cinq plus importants assureurs européens mais aussi comme l'un des protagonistes de la scène mondiale de l'assurance.

Au cours de l'année dernière, le Groupe s'est également engagé à renforcer sa position dans les zones opérationnelles les plus importantes stratégiquement, à rationaliser les structures des organisations dans les territoires où son activité s'articule entre plusieurs sociétés, à jeter les bases de son développement dans de nouveaux territoires et de nouveaux domaines. Dans ce contexte dynamique, les principales opérations conduites en 1995 et au cours des premiers mois 1996 ont été:

- la prise de contrôle de La France Vie et La France IARD, grâce à laquelle le Groupe Generali a augmenté sa part de marché en France de 2,8% à 3,3%;
- la concentration dans Generali (Suisse) Holding des participations détenues dans les cinq filiales d'assurances suisses et l'initiation de la procédure de concentration des compagnies colombiennes en Generali Colombia;
- le démarrage de l'activité de Generali Popistoma nouvellement constituée dans la République Tchèque;
- la constitution en Italie de deux sociétés pour opérer dans le secteur des fonds de retraite et une société pour administrer le patrimoine immobilier de la Maison Mère et des sociétés contrôlées en Italie.

En outre, Generali a souscrit un important accord avec le groupe AXA qui prévoit la dissolution des participations réciproques en deux holdings non cotés, existants depuis 1990, et la présence directe du Groupe Generali dans le capital AXA avec une participation de 11% librement disponible. En outre, le Groupe Generali acquiert la totalité du capital du holding GME - Generali Midi Expansion - qui contrôle, entre autres, Business Men's Assurances.

LES RESULTATS DE LA MAISON MERE

L'Assemblée Générale des Assicurazioni Generali réunie à Trieste le 29 juin dernier, a approuvé le bilan 1995, qui s'est clôturé avec un bénéfice net de 238 millions d'ECU (217 millions en 1994), et la distribution d'un dividende unitaire de liras 375 par action (liras 585,9 comprenant le crédit d'impôt). Conformément à la politique traditionnelle de renforcement des fonds propres les actionnaires de la Compagnie ont décidé d'affecter à la réserve exceptionnelle 76,9 millions d'ECU, prélevés sur le bénéfice.

Au cours de l'Assemblée extraordinaire, a été délibérée l'augmentation du capital social de liras 1.603 milliards 250 millions à liras 1.763 milliards 575 millions moyennant l'attribution gratuite d'une action nouvelle - jouissance 1.1.1996 - pour dix actions anciennes.

Le Conseil d'Administration, réuni après l'Assemblée, a confirmé comme Président Antoine Bernheim, Viceprésident et Administrateur Délégué Gianfranco Gutty et Viceprésident Francesco Cingano.

Tous les chiffres ont été convertis au change ECU/F 6,278

<http://www.generali.com>

Outre l'Italie, le Groupe Generali opère en Afrique du Sud, Allemagne, Argentine, Autriche, Belgique, au Brésil, Canada, en Colombie, au Danemark, aux Emirats Arabes Unis, en Equateur, Espagne, aux Etats-Unis, en France, Grande Bretagne, Grèce, au Guatemala, à Guernesey, Hong Kong, en Hongrie, Irlande, Israël, au Japon, Liban, Luxembourg, Malte, au Mexique, aux Pays-Bas, à Panama, au Pérou, Portugal, dans la République Tchèque, en Roumanie, à Singapour, en Suisse, Turquie.



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L'ASSUREUR SANS FRONTIÈRES.

SPORTS

Howard Likely To Remain With Bullets

By Mark Asher
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The National Basketball Association and the Miami Heat were discussing a settlement of the legal issues involving Juwan Howard on Tuesday night. Howard re-signed with the Washington Bullets Monday after his contract with the Heat was voided by the NBA.

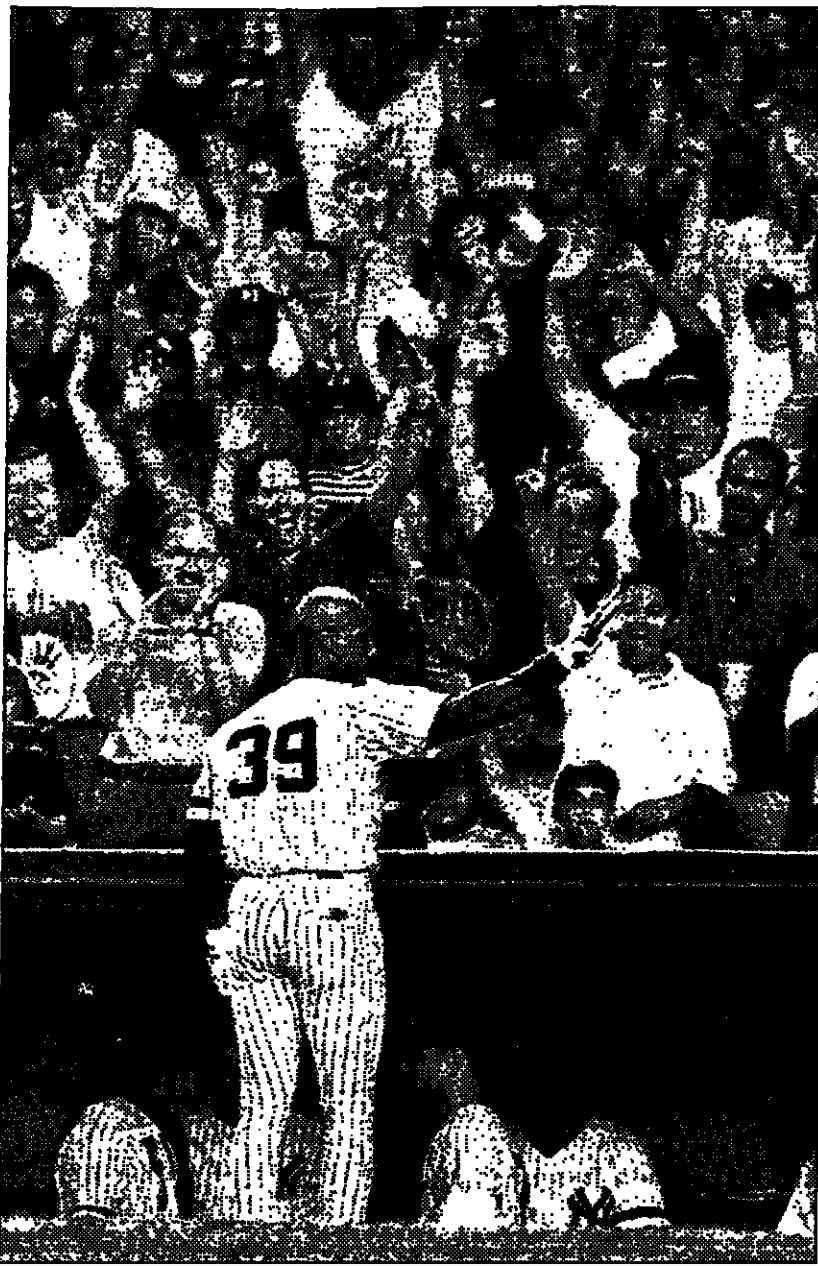
A settlement would guarantee Howard rejoining the Bullets immediately. On Monday the league gave the Bullets a waiver to re-sign Howard and earlier on Tuesday, the NBA's chief legal officer, Jeffrey Mishkin, said, "I am very confident Juwan Howard will remain with Washington."

The NBA and the players' union agreed that the Bullets would forfeit their first-round pick in next June's draft, if they retain Howard.

"The whole point was trying to put Washington back in the position they would have been in if they had not mistakenly renounced Howard, and that was hard to do — in fact impossible to do," Mishkin said. "We couldn't unscramble all the eggs. They had a signed contract; there was no way we could void those contracts."

The Bullets would be able to retain the players they signed since Howard apparently was Miami bound — Lorenzo Williams and Tracy Murray.

Sources said Pat Riley, the Heat's president and coach, was trying to get a waiver from the league so he could try to re-sign free agents Walt Williams and Rex Chapman. The Heat had renounced their rights to create space under the salary cap to pay Howard. The Heat has only six veteran players under contract.



Darryl Strawberry responding to the cheering fans at Yankee Stadium after hitting his third straight home run in a game against the White Sox.

Strawberry Switches On the Power His 3 Home Runs Upstage Fielder's Debut as Yankee

By Selena Roberts
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Darryl Strawberry had been looking for something like a lost set of car keys, searching all over when it was right in his pocket all along.

He hadn't lost his power after all. It only seemed that way, the way he had been struggling simply to make contact, the way he had been benched this week.

AL ROUNDUP

then dropped to seventh in the batting order on Tuesday night for the first time in his career.

How low could he go? He had to do something, so he came to Yankee Stadium a little earlier, took batting practice a little longer and discovered the problem was right in front of him: the plate. He was too close to it, unable to extend his arms and power, which he did on Tuesday night to send three consecutive home runs over the right-field wall as the Yankees successfully opened their homestand, 9-2, against Chicago.

"Before the game, Darryl came by me and said, 'I think I've found it,'" said Cecil Fielder.

It was Fielder who was supposed to provide the power on Tuesday night in his Yankee Stadium debut. But he gladly stepped aside for Strawberry, who was the star. Yet Strawberry didn't seem the least bit overwhelmed by all the commotion.

"They signed me to hit home runs," said Strawberry, who joined the Yankees a month ago after playing for a minor league team in St. Paul. "I feel pretty good. I've just been waiting to get on the right track."

Strawberry had never batted seventh before in his career.

"It doesn't matter where you hit in the order," Strawberry said. "I have been in there every day. When I get playing time, I have to do my best."

"I wasn't up there trying to hit home runs. I was just trying to hit the ball hard. I hadn't been here this whole year, and I think I was putting too much pressure on. I just needed to be more relaxed."

It seemed as if he could simply lay back with some sort of remote control in his hand and direct a home run anywhere he wanted to Tuesday night. He dialed in the right-field bleachers three times.

Each time was more demoralizing than the last for the White Sox starter, Kevin Tapani (10-6). He threw Strawberry a sinker on a 3-2 pitch that went 375 feet (114 meters) in the second inning, a split-finger on a 2-1 pitch in the fourth inning that traveled 409 feet and then a fastball in the fifth inning that soared a measly 345 feet.

Altogether, Strawberry accounted for four runs. As for Fielder? He was 1 for 4, but pleased as he could be by the ovation he got from the crowd of 33,025.

In other American League games, The Associated Press reported:

Indians 4, Mariners 3 Randy Johnson returned to the Mariners for the first time since mid-May, but he was too late to make a difference. Cleveland already had scored four runs off Bob Wells (11-4) and held off the Mariners in Seattle.

Johnson was activated Tuesday from the 60-day disabled list after missing 73 games because of a bad back. He came into the game at the start of the sixth and the Mariners trailing 4-1. He threw 29 pitches, 22 of them strikes, in two scoreless innings and struck out four.

Seattle's Jay Buhner hit his 32d homer of the season and his 100th run batted in.

Royals 3, Athletics 2 In Kansas City, Michael Tucker and Craig Paquette hit home runs and home run-happy Oak-

land didn't. Tim Belcher (11-6) gave up 11 hits in seven innings, but that was still good enough to send the A's to their ninth loss in 12 games. Tucker hit a two-run home run in the first and Paquette added a three-run shot in the fourth.

Rangers 4, Tigers 2 Shortstop Kevin Elster homered for a fourth straight game to tie a club record the visiting Rangers won for only the second time in six games.

Elster has 19 home runs and 76 RBIs this year, dwarfing his previous bests in both categories (10 home runs and 55 RBIs) in 1989 when he was with the New York Mets. And he is 5-for-15 with four homers and nine RBIs in his last four games.

Red Sox 3, Blue Jays 2 Mike Maddux started for the first time this season and allowed only one run and six hits in six innings to get the victory in Boston. Heathcliff Slocumb worked the ninth for his 16th save for the Red Sox.

Erik Hanson (10-13), making his first start against his former teammates, took the loss despite allowing only one hit through the first 5 1/2 innings.

Orioles 13, Brewers 3 In Milwaukee, B.J. Surhoff went 4-for-5, hit two solo home runs and scored three times to lead the Baltimore barrage. The homers raised Surhoff's season total to 18.

Mike Mussina (13-8) allowed four hits in eight innings for the victory. Ben McDonald (10-6), a former Oriole, gave up eight runs and took the loss.

Twins 4, Angels 1 Brad Radke pitched 7 1/2 strong innings as the visiting Twins beat California in John McNamara's return as the Angels' manager. Radke allowed one run and five hits.

Scott Stahovik's RBI single was the key hit in a two-run sixth inning that broke a scoreless tie and sent California to its seventh loss in eight games despite Tim Salmon's 25th homer.

Back Home, Braves Give Fans a Show

The Associated Press

Forget the Olympics and the ping of aluminum bats. The thrack is back as real baseball returned to Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium and the Braves showed why they're baseball's best.

Atlanta rapped out 16 hits and used five pitchers to combine on a three-

ML ROUNDUP

hitter, beating the Philadelphia Phillies, 10-4, Tuesday night in its return from a 17-game road trip.

"It was fun playing in front of the hometown fans after three weeks away," Chipper Jones said.

Jones and Marquis Grissom each had three hits and two doubles. After going 9-8 on their 18-day, five-city trip, the Braves were glad to be back in their own ballpark, occupied for two weeks by the Olympic baseball tournament.

"It was a long road trip," Grissom said. "We're glad to be back on our home field, to get back to that Southern hospitality."

Atlanta, 39-18 at home, scored only 64 runs on the trip, an average of less than four per game.

Still, the defending World Series champions are 69-42, the best record in baseball.

All the green Olympic signs that had covered the Braves' champion-

ship banners on the outfield facade were gone from their ballpark, as were the Olympic signs that covered the spot where Hank Aaron's 715th home run landed.

Mike Bielecki (3-2) got the victory with two innings in relief of Terrell Wade. Russ Springer (3-10) gave up five runs — three earned — and nine hits in 4 1/2 innings.

Benito Santiago hit his 20th homer for the Phillies, a three-run drive.

Rockies 11, Marlins 0 Mark Thompson pitched a seven-hitter for only the third complete-game shutout in the two-year history of Denver's Coors Field.

Ellis Burks scored three runs to raise his season total to 104, two more than Colorado's previous team record set by Dante Bichette last year.

John Burkett (6-10), who has won only two of his last 12 starts, allowed seven runs and nine hits in five innings.

Reds 3, Giants 2 Jeff Branson hit a two-run homer off Rod Beck with two outs in the ninth, sending San Francisco to its third seven-game losing streak this season.

Barry Bonds' 31st homer, his sixth in 11 games, and Rick Wilkins' sacrifice fly in the seventh had given the Giants a 2-1 lead. But Beck (0-6) blew a save for the fifth time in 26 chances.

Cubs 3, Mets 0 Jaime Navarro pitched eight shutout innings and Jose Hernandez hit a two-run homer at Wrigley Field in Chicago.

Bob Patterson finished for his fifth save, helping end New York's streak of homering in 21 consecutive games.

Dodgers 3, Pirates 1 Mike Piazza broke out of a slump with a two-run homer off Steve Parris at Three Rivers Stadium in Pittsburgh, and Pedro Astacio scattered 10 hits in 8 1/2 innings, leaving after a run-scoring double by Jason Kendall.

Todd Worrell got the final out for his 28th save, sending Pittsburgh to its eighth loss in 10 games.

Padres 1, Cardinals 0 Ken Caminiti homered and Tim Lincecum picked up a rare victory as a starter to lead visiting San Diego.

Worrell (7-5) won for the fifth time in 26 career starts, allowing five hits in seven innings. Trevor Hoffman pitched a perfect ninth for his 26th save.

Expos 7, Astros 5 In the Astrodome, Jeff Fassero (12-7) beat Houston for the third time in three starts this season, allowing four runs and eight hits in five innings.

Moises Alou drove in two runs for the visiting Expos with a single and sacrifice fly, Shane Andrews hit a two-run double and Cliff Floyd added a run-scoring triple.

Big Daddy Settles Into His New Home

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The first thing the new home-run hitter for the Yankees did not want to be, he said, was "over-geeked."

"I'm so excited to be here," Cecil Fielder said, "that I don't wanna be too juiced about the whole thing."

It was shortly after 3:30 Tuesday afternoon when Cecil Fielder, also known as Big Daddy, arrived in the home team's clubhouse at Yankee Stadium for the first time in his life. For the past nine-plus major-league seasons, Fielder has always been a visitor to the Bronx, a tourist of sorts wearing the togs of the Blue Jays and the Tigers.

Last week, in a surprise trade with Detroit, the Yankees acquired the jumbo slugger, who at 6 feet 3 inches (1.9 meters) is listed in the Tigers' media guide as weighing 250 pounds (113 kilograms), which appears at best to be a flattering round number.

He made his Yankee debut on the road, whacking his 27th and 28th home runs of the season. Tuesday was to be his first game in New York for the Yankees.

To calm his nerves as he prepared to don the pinstripes, Fielder called over one of the clubhouse boys for assignment.

"Need some groceries in me," he said. He then gave an order of three chicken legs and a bag of fries and released the clubhouse boy like a carrier pigeon to the fast-food store.

Perhaps this is how he has taken on the look of a small sumo wrestler. Perhaps this is what energizes him to hoist

the home runs he regularly hoists.

"This is a great chance for me," he said. "I have a shot at playing in the World Series. Is this really happening?"

During the off-season he had asked the Tigers' organization, facing another dismal rebuilding season, to deal him to a contender.

"At this stage of my career, and with the team beginning the way it was," he said, "I hoped I could get another chance."

Nothing happened, and so Fielder, who will be 33 next month and is the only Tiger in history to hit 25 or more homers for six straight seasons, went out day after long day and tried to do his job as a designated hitter and first baseman.

Other teams pitched around him, he felt obligated to go after bad pitches just to try to produce runs and he tried to remain a positive, veteran influence in the clubhouse.

Meanwhile, the Tigers proceeded to establish the worst record in baseball — before Tuesday night's game, they were in last place in the American League East with a 38-73 record.

"I still can't hardly believe I'm here," he said, and gave a sweep of his hand to the clubhouse of a team that was in first place in that same division.

He talked about how thrilled his family is to be in New York. He and his wife of 14 years, Stacey, and their two children will live in Manhattan. His 4-year-old

daughter, Ceclyn, has been "nonstop," he said. His 12-year-old son, Prince, who stands 5 feet 8 inches, weighs 180 pounds and who, said Big Daddy, "can go into the deck in Tiger Stadium" — that is, he has hit baseballs into the upper deck there — is delighted to be with a winner.

And Stacey? "She's straight," said Fielder. "She's made a lot of moves with me, and she said this one is awesome."

Paul O'Neill, the right fielder, said: "Cecil is fun to have around. He's the kind of guy you root for even when he's not on your team. I'd talk to him around the batting cage and he has this lingo where you come back to the dugout and you're still laughing."

David Cone and Fielder broke in together with the Kansas City Royals organization.

"Cecil truly loves what he does for a living, and the fans will appreciate this," said Cone. "He has an infectious personality, and I think that with his power and his smile, he's a tailor-made for this city."

And so Cecil Fielder, filled now with great expectations and three chicken legs, grabbed some bats to go to work.

And how, he was asked on the way out of the clubhouse door, did he acquire the nickname Big Daddy?

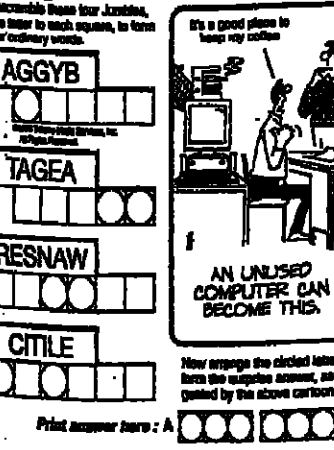
"Had it ever since Double-A ball," he said. "The Big Hurt told me that you gotta be 'dein' somethin' to get a name with Big in it."

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I DRESSED MYSELF, BUT MOM DIDN'T LIKE MY CHOICE OF SHIRT, PANTS, SHOES OR SOCKS!"

JUMBLE



Print answer here: A

PEANUTS



GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



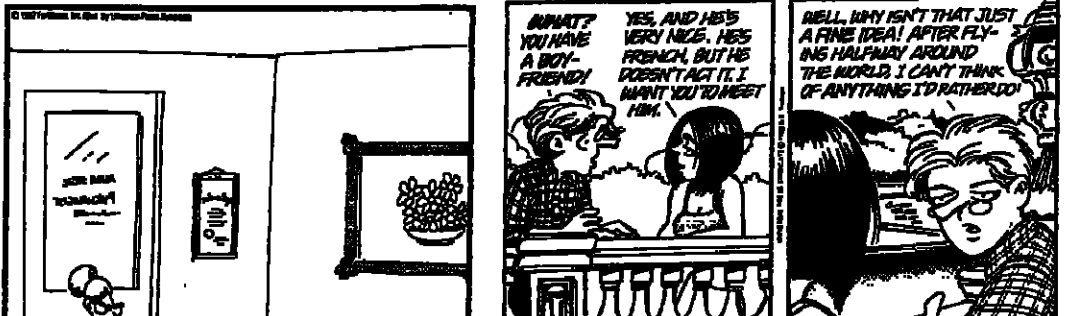
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